THE CRISIS

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

A Record of The Darker Races

MARCH

1929

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Presents

A Condensed Financial Statement of its Business for 1928

INCOME FOR 1928

Cash Balance Brought Forward Jan. 1, 1928	$ 424,083.83
Premiums and Sundry Accounts	878,183.11
Total Receipts	$1,302,266.94

DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1928

Claims Paid to Policyholders	$ 410,038.78
Investments and All Other Accounts	528,784.76
Total Disbursements	$ 938,823.54
Cash Balance, Dec. 31, 1928	363,443.40
Total	$1,302,266.94

ASSETS

Cash Balance	$ 363,443.40	
Petty Cash Fund	100.00	
Bills Receivable	16,798.98	
Real Estate Mortgages	137,328.69	
Real Estate Mortgage Bonds	32,955.00	
Stocks and Bonds	44,495.95	
Real Estate	385,530.46	
Accrued Interest and Rents	5,006.04	
Net Uncollected Premiums	4,675.23	
TOTAL ASSETS		$ 990,333.75

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	$ 150,000.00	
Deposits—Employees	32,990.08	
Reserve for Unpaid Claims, Interest and Taxes	10,059.65	
Policy Reserve	447,729.00	
Sundry Ledger Accounts	15,056.00	
Total Liabilities		$ 655,834.73
Surplus		334,499.02
TOTAL		$ 990,333.75

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THE CRISIS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS, *Editor* — PIERCE MCN. THOMPSON, *Business Manager*

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We have many things of interest for the April CRISIS and succeeding numbers: *Countée Cullen* sends us the first of his European letters; Dorothy Gary writes of a white girl's adventures *"Beyond the Color Line"*; there is that story *"Dark Lover"* by Rheba Cain, which we have mentioned; Mrs. John P. Green writes on the *"Original George Harris"*; and there is the poignant little story, *"Anna"*. We have an essay on *"Business as Public Service"*; and more of those intensely human poems, "More Letters Left By a Suicide" by *Frank Horne;* there is an editorial *"I Am Not Invited"*, of the kind that all will appreciate; naturally, there will be Easter allusions and decorations.

As the Crow Flies

NOTHING in modern history is so touching as the sudden interest of *The New York Times* in Leon Trotsky.—Metaphysics, with the help of Alfred Einstein, is driving physics beyond time and space.—They are going to keep at it in Spain until Primo de Rivera falls of his own weight.—Hoover is going to rebuild the Republican Party in the South. Certainly, and of course. And if the Negro is left out of the rebuilding he will vote for the Democrats. Of course, and certainly.—The Hoover Cabinet, to date, contains a Nicaraguan Imperialist, a Pennsylvania millionaire, a Negro-hating trade unionist, and a white Southerner who sold Post Offices before Perry Howard was offered the contract.—Mr. Grundy, (not related to Mrs. Grundy), who furnished $700,000 to elect Coolidge, $615,000 to elect Fisher and $547,000 to elect Hoover, wants a tariff high enough to keep out all goods which compete with Pennsylvania manufactures. Why not go the limit and stop the importation into America of all goods from everywhere? After that, we might bar all disrupting ideas.—Walsh won't let oil alone. Not only has he stopped Sinclair at Teapot Dome and Salt Creek, but if he keeps on just as like as not he will look into the order of the State Department to give Sinclair a cheap deal in Haiti.—Mr. Bok and Mr. Coolidge have dedicated a refuge for birds in Florida, with singing bells to help them out. No refuge for Negroes has been planned as yet.—What New York needs is space on the streets for the people who live above the 15th story.—The Salvation Army is fighting a Seventeenth Century battle against the divine right of Booths to rule.—After quarreling sixty years, the Pope and the King of Italy are coming to an understanding which involves the giving up on the part of each of the main things for which they were both fighting.—The economic United States of Europe is discovering the one thing which makes the United States of America free and independent, and that is free trade between states.—The Mitten Plan of Philadelphia is an agreement by which union labor offers to give up its right to agitate and strike in return for a vote in councils in which it is disfranchised.—And the Senate sings: Fifteen cruisers on a Dead Treaty's Chest. Yo! Ho! Ho! and a $24,000,000 bottle of rum.—For modesty and shrinking self-effacement, command us to Commander Byrd; you would hardly know from his front-page dispatches that he was on earth at all!—The United States Senate is going to have a larger hall to loaf in with more hot air from the city of Washington.—The United States and the Morgan Banking House are again figuring out the amount of money which can be safely taken from Germany during the next two generations. These reparations are to pay for more armies and navies in France and England.—The Child's Restaurants will serve meat hereafter but only white meat. Dark meat need not apply.—The boxing world is praying that Schmeling may never be asked to meet Goddard.—Suppose that those twenty-four million dollars were used to endow Negro colleges and that the cost of those fifteen cruisers, some two hundred millions or more, should be used to preach Peace. How about liquor and war then?—

The CRISIS *is published monthly and copyrighted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 15 cents a copy, $1.50 a year. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage and while* THE CRISES *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.*

LINCOLN
PREJUDICE
LYNCH LAW
NEGRO HATER
LIBERTY AND JUSTICE
THE COURTS
POLICE
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"Vandals!"

A Roman Holiday

By WILLIAM PICKENS

Madame Naidu, friend of Gandhi, and like him once President of the Indian National Congress, asked an assembly of Americans the other day: "Is it true that they really burn colored people in the United States?" This story, which gathers its facts from local white newspapers, is the answer to that query.

IT is a date "B. C.", and there is a holiday in Rome. It is evening. There is a pyre of wood and tinder, with a high flat top, and gathered in a circle around it are thousands of Romans and their friends from Lombardy. On top of this pyre a man lies "hog-tied" (his forearms bound tightly to his legs.) It resembles the setting for a religious sacrifice until one comes near enough to hear the curses of the assembled multitude and their shouts for the blood and torture of the victim. But the leaders do not hurry; all seem to be whetting their appetites on the spectacle. Electric lights from various machines are turned upon the victim, and cans and buckets of gasoline are gathered near the still unlighted pyre.—You had not heard that there were automobiles, electric lights and gasoline in Rome in the time B. C. But this is Rome, Mississippi, a few score miles northwest of Jackson and just beyond the little town of Lombardy. The time is December 31, 1928,—which is long "before Christ" in Mississippi.

But before we observe how the Romans will carry forward this particular celebration, let us review what has led up to it. Mississippi is a "former slave state"; that is, slavery was supposed to be abolished there with the ratification of the 13th amendment to the American Constitution. But no human institution is ever so abruptly discontinued as that; rather has the system of slavery gone through various stages of evolution—from private to public slavery, from individual ownership to community ownership of the enslaved class. When the so-called "freedmen" have got into the toils of the law, even for misdemeanors, they have sometimes been sold for a term of years by the state to private persons or corporations, to work out their fines under a "convict lease system". Today there are "state farms" of black convict labor, like those of northwest Mississippi, near Rome and Lombardy. These public-property slaves are treated worse than the old private-property slaves, for these wear the added brand of crime and those who profit by their labor have not the economic restraint of permanent proprietary interest.

IN camp number 11 was Charley Sheppard, a stalwart black, serving for murder. He had probably killed another Negro or he would have been executed. He was a "trusty", a servant to the officers and keepers at the camps. He was in the immediate custody of Sergeant J. D. Duvall. "Trusties" are permitted to go about within prescribed limits without a guard. Once Sheppard overstayed his time a bit, and Duvall gave him a brutal beating. Mississippi prisoners are at the mercy of the whims and passions of their keepers. At night the abused convict called Duvall out of his bed to the door and knocked him in the head with a hammer, killing him, perhaps instantly. Then the convict, escaping, is said to have abducted a young woman, Duvall's daughter. This is strange, since he and Miss Duvall had to walk the entire length of the farm, past many camps where guards were on duty. We will never know the convict's side of this story. Perhaps he took her as hostage. He returned her after 24 hours, and it is said that he had assaulted her. In the South any force or duress exercised by a black man against a white woman is regarded as criminal assault. Even accidental collisions on the sidewalks have been so regarded. A Jackson daily paper says that the Negro claimed that the young woman asked him "to take her away" after her father was killed.

Then there was the great man-hunt, lasting more than two days: men, guns, dogs. But the camp "blood hounds" failed to keep track and overtake Sheppard. On Monday morning, December 31st, he turned up in a cabin on the farm owned and operated by Miss Laura Mae Keeler, a white woman, where his brother Tom worked. White women of the South, who know colored people, are less afraid of colored men than any other white women in the world. The terror supposed to seize such women in the presence of black men is a myth, born of the morbid minds of those who, without experience, believe what they read, or what is deliberately manufactured by those who seek to justify lynching.

WHEN Miss Keeler heard that Charley was being hunted, she took Tom from the cabins into her own house for safe-keeping, for she knew that the Mississippi mob code is to kill even those who are akin to the object of its wrath. The fugitive sent a request to her house to see his brother Tom. Miss Keeler phoned the news to a nearby town and soon a former deputy sheriff and other armed men appeared. They did not rush the cabin where Charley sat on a bed with a gun beside him, presumably with the temper of a wild beast,—desperate, hungry, wet and ragged, from a 48-hour chase through swamps and streams. The hunters conferred with Miss Keeler. She advised them to let her go alone and talk with Charley. They took the advice. Unarmed and alone she went to the cabin and talked with the convict, who expressed a desire to "shoot it out" with his pursuers. By a show of human kindness she persuaded him to put himself under her protection, promising to conduct him personally to the authorities. He agreed to capitulate under those terms. It should be explained that Charley Sheppard was a half-wit. In his situation only a Negro half-wit could have a faith in such promises in Mississippi. But Miss Keeler was sincere, and with the armed men she secured a car and they drove for four hours through highways and by-ways. She says she did her best to dodge the mobs and reach a safe jail. But somehow just after they had passed through the little town of Cleveland and gotten conveniently outside of it, they ran head-on into the biggest of all the gathering mobs, the one led by one of the Duvall brothers, who "politely but firmly" demanded and took the captive.

And Governor Bilbo? One of his "generals" called out the militia, 400 strong, to help run down the fugitive Negro. They invaded the swamps where the convict was suspected of hiding,—but had other Negro convicts to walk ahead of the soldiers, presumably to make a path for the troops. After this convict vanguard made sure that Sheppard was not there, the soldiers would enter and throw deadly or asphyxiating gas bombs into all hollow trees and stumps. As soon as word came that a mob had the Negro a few miles away, this army was disbanded and sent home, the "general" remarking, frankly enough, that they had come out to help catch the Negro and not to take him from a mob. The reporter of the Jackson *Daily News*, who was with the mob at the time, says that six car-loads of militiamen passed right by a string of mob cars, in one of which the Negro was held captive, and did

not even stop to investigate. After the chase started, the Governor went off to Tennessee to visit his son in school, and returned just in time to hear the news of the cremation and to view the remains next day. When asked what he would do, he said that he had neither the time nor the money, and indicated that he also lacked the inclination, "to investigate 3,000 people". To a flood of telegrams from all over the nation, the explanation was "he is out of the city", and a local newspaper further apologized that no answers could be given anyhow, "since it is quite evident that there is nothing the governor can do about it".

BUT let us follow the mob. An ex-deputy sheriff who rode with Miss Keeler and talked to the convict for the four hours before they met the mob, declares that Sheppard was "crazy" and a plain "half-wit". Perhaps he should have been in a mental hospital instead of a convict camp. But what does the mob care? The mob is also crazy. A few years ago a Georgia mob took a raving Negro maniac right out of an insane asylum and lynched him. So this Mississippi mob began its great parade of seven hours. It grew to 3,000 automobiles and at least 6,000 people. It went advertising all over the countryside, through towns and villages, drumming up a crowd by exhibiting the Negro and forecasting the performance of the coming night. It halted at the camps and communities of Negro people to bully them, threatening them with the awful impending fate which was overtaking Sheppard. One hundred white women joined this procession and stayed through the last orgies of the night.

At 7:30 the procession halted at Lombardy and staged a sort of reception and review, prelude to the main show to be enacted later in Rome. The Negro was placed on a raised platform in front of the May Brothers' store in Lombardy, lights were played on him, and the mob and the public marched by to get a close-up of the victim. The mob had claimed that two other Negroes were implicated. Here on this solemn eminence Sheppard denied that, fortunately for those others.

The sacrifice having been inspected, the procession reformed and moved on to Rome, taking up final position in front of camp number 11. Mobs have a sentiment for enacting their horror on the spot of the crime which they are supposed to be "avenging",—to cover a lesser crime with a greater. The filling stations of that section did a land-office business, being drained of gasoline for the unheard-of number of cars, or to fill the tin cans and other containers in preparation for the cremation. The mob was leisurely; it set the stage; it even waited on some late-comers, relatives and friends of Duvall, who were to have seats of honor at the pyre-side.

SO the great pyre stood under the night, laden with its human victim but not yet lighted. There was a great multitude of farmers and denizens of swamps and hills, who lead a rather dull everyday life and had never before participated in so thrilling a spectacle. When the black half-wit realized what was prepared for him, he put up a terrible fight. One against thousands, he struck out until his hands were securely tied; then he cursed and swore and railed at the mob,—a madman expressing contempt for their "civilization". Even when his pyre was lighted, he grasped and hurled burning sticks of wood at the leaders of the mob. Before the torch was applied, a member of the mob jumped upon the pyre, straddled the bound Negro and was cutting off his ears with a penknife. The prostrate black spat up into the torturer's face.

The final act begins. They pour a bit of gasoline on his legs first and light them. They wanted the torture to last and they boast that they kept him living in the fire for at least forty-five minutes. He continued to fight; once, all ablaze, he managed to roll off the pyre and was struggling to his feet on the ground. Some, frightened, were about to shoot, but the leaders said shooting would be too merciful and several seized him and threw him back upon the pyre. But his animal courage had angered them and now they poured on a great flood of gasoline and a column of blaze rose up. The grand climax. The head and limbs dropped away first. The trunk was slower to disintegrate. The fire burned out.

The show was over. Then one begins to wonder to what order of the animal kingdom man really belongs. The mob rushed forward to secure souvenirs of charred flesh and bones. The smell of burning flesh is very disagreeable, but the members and pieces of this Negro were quickly appropriated. The head was seized while still smoking and fuming. But next morning by the side of the various roads along which the members of the scattering mob had returned home, the abducted parts of the Negro's body were found thrown into ditches and gulleys,—the head here, and a hand or a foot or a femur there. Some think that this was due to the disagreeable smell of burned flesh, but we suspect that it was indicative of returning human sense, as the people scattered away from their place of saturnalia. Only a mob could do what had been done. One cannot be a mob by himself. The mob-mind ceases to exist when one finds himself away from the crowd, alone on a country road, with a grinning human skull or a mutilated foot or tibia in his automobile. Mob caste-pressure is no longer felt,—the beastly souvenir is thrown into the nearest ditch. They say that the fellow who cut away the unburned ears, was still exhibiting them at a distant filling station next morning, but we venture the guess that he did not keep them long past his dinner.

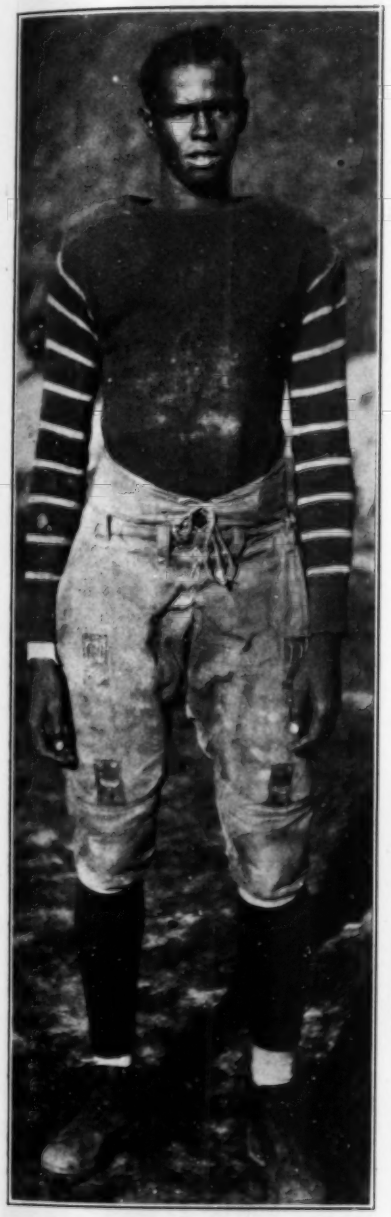
So it happened. Everybody knew it. *The papers gave the details. Every item of fact which we have given here, was taken from the accounts of those who were rather in sympathy with the mob. We have taken not a single item from a Negro source.* But the next day the coroner, after viewing the pyre-place and the rediscovered pieces of the Negro, rendered this official verdict: "Death from unknown causes". That is, "officially" nobody knows who killed that Negro, albeit thousands were at the killing, perhaps even the coroner, or his relatives and friends.

This mob crime was distressingly deliberate. We boast of fewest lynchings in 1928, but this last one was more studiedly savage than anything since Henry Lowry was "burned by inches" in Arkansas, near Memphis, about eight years ago. Those inclined to condone mobs on the ground that they lack self-control and are driven by frenzy and madness should modify their opinion in the face of this example. This mob was highly appraised by a Mississippi newspaper for being so "methodical". It drummed for a crowd, it set its stage, like a show business. It took time, it paraded seven hours, it waited for night when fireworks are more impressive. It mounted its victim on a raised platform and turned spotlights on him. It waited on important guests and arranged choice seats for them, near the head of the Negro's pyre. It sent out committees and emissaries to buy or to "commandeer" gasoline and wood. To make the show last, it burned the victim by degrees, beginning on the legs; before lighting him, it stuffed mud into the Negro's mouth and nostrils, partly closing them, for fear that carbon monoxide or other deadly gases generated in the first combustion, might be drawn into his lungs—and take the thrill out of the remaining part of the show. The procedure was devilishly systematic. It carried the crowd and got them so thoroughly hypnotized that many of them wanted a piece of that Negro when the show was over. Its members

(*Will you please turn to page* 96)

Football in Negro Colleges in 1928

By PAUL W. L. JONES



Drew of Bluefield, End

SELECTING players for all Negro American Teams this year was no easy task. Many teams brought forth dependable backs, brilliant ball carriers, passers, pass receivers and punters. Clark had so many backfield stars that it was dubbed "the team with a thousand backs". Bluefield, Howard, Wilberforce, Atlanta, Fisk, Tuskegee, West Virginia, Wiley, Alabama State, Prairie View and Alcorn developed backfield men who gave good accounts of themselves every week-end. Backfield stars were numerous, but good linemen were scarce, and a good line is half of the gridiron battle.

An end must be fast and brainy. Drew and Fowler possess these qualities in full measure. Drew's playing was brilliant and he made many of Bluefield's touchdowns. In Gallion and Thomas tackles are found who know what the enemy will do after the game has been in progress but a few minutes. Charging fast and low, they strike with terrific force, smashing everything before them. Cunningham was the outstanding guard of 1928. He played both guard and tackle, winning the respect of all opponents and the praise of sport critics who saw him in action. Bates was the best guard in the Texas Conference and one of the most dependable linemen in the country. Benson, a roving hard-hitter, stands out the cleverest center of the season. The enemy could not pass through him and as a passer-back, he was steady, sure and reliable.

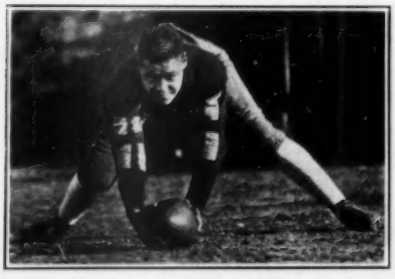
THE backfield of the first team is made up of Stanley, Harding, Coles and Jones, all outstanding performers. Stanley outplayed, outfought and outgeneraled all quarter backs against whom he played. In the games

All Negro American Foot Ball Teams

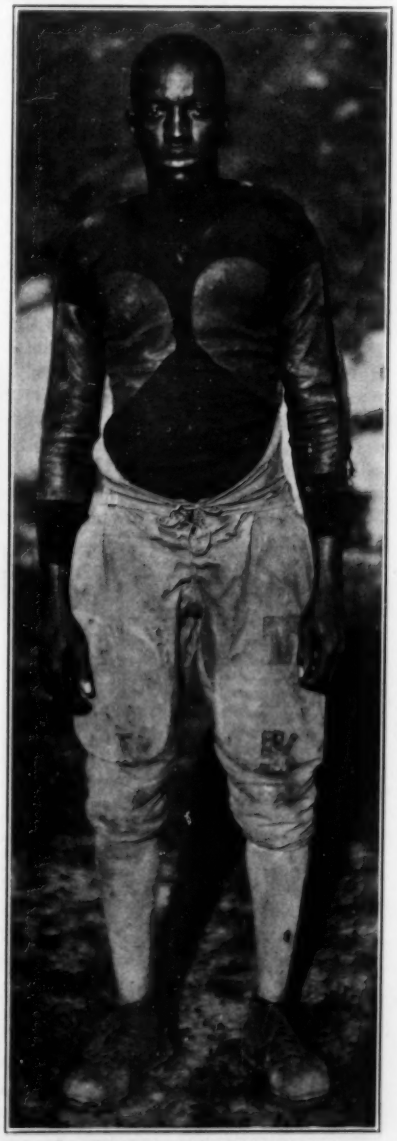
Position	*First Team*
End	Drew (Bluefield)
Tackle	Gallion (Bluefield)
Guard	Bates (Prairie View)
Center	Benson (Clark)
Guard	Cunningham (Bluefield)
Tackle	Thomas (Morgan)
End	Fowler (Virginia Sem. and College)
Quarter	Stanley (Atlanta)
Half	Harding (Wiley)
Half	Coles (Howard)
Full	Jones (Hampton)

Position	*Second Team*
End	Livingston (Wiley)
Tackle	Roberts (Bishop)
Guard	Redd (Wiley)
Center	Doster (Oklahoma)
Guard	Lattimer (Morehouse)
Tackle	C. Robinson (Tuskegee)
End	Washington (West Virginia)
Quarter	Buford (Bluefield)
Half	Wiggins (Athanta)
Half	Marks (Prairie View)
Full	Lane (North Caroline A. and T.)

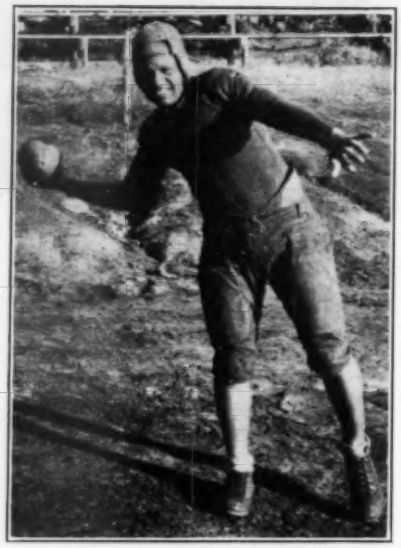
Position	*Third Team*
End	Rocquemore (Lincoln, Mo.)
Tackle	Banks (Prairie View)
Guard	Horn (Wilberforce)
Center	Richardson (Kentucky State)
Guard	Coger (Alabama State)
Tackle	Gaines (Hampton)
End	Johnson (Oklahoma)
Quarter	Thornhill (Fisk)
Half	Joyner (Tuskegee)
Half	Yost (Fisk)
Full	Ross (Howard)



Benson of Clark, Center

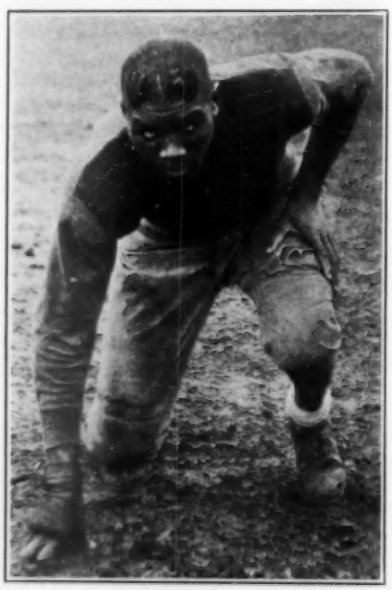


Cunningham of Bluefield, Guard



Harding of Wiley, Halfback

with Howard and Tuskegee, Stanley showed up excellently, outguessing both Payne and Smith. His strategy deserved victory, but the fates decreed otherwise and Howard and Tuskegee won. Harding was the greatest back of 1928. He played both half and quarter on Wiley's team and made good in both positions. Coles did well everything he was asked to do. Strong, fast and cool-headed, he is a dangerous runner, and he seldom fails to make the yardage needed to carry the ball forward. Jones, able, strong and speedy, was the best full back in the game. His line hitting antics bothered all opposing teams. Complete master of himself, he puts every ounce of his great bulk into every movement. He is one of the greatest full backs of many years.



Bates of Prairie View, Guard

Stevenson, Tuskegee's star back, did not play as brilliantly as in preceding years, but periodically performed well at running, passing and snatching passes out of the air. He is not given a place on any team because he has played college football for more than four years. Cain, of Bluefield, would doubtless have gained the quarter back berth on the first team had he not been forced out of the game by an injury. Buford, who took his place, did excellent work.

Wiggins and McPherson (Atlanta), Ross and Marshall (Howard), Lane and Coleman (North Carolina A. and T.), Joyner, Shanklin and V. Smith (Tuskegee), Marks (Prairie View) Wiggins and Graves (Bluefield), Ward, Tynes and Mitchell (Wilberforce), Yost and Thornhill (Fisk), Crisp and Anderson (Oklahoma), McConnell and Edwards (West Virginia), Davis (Virginia Seminary and College), Tyler (Morris Brown), Wilson (Texas), Henderson (Bishop), Dupree and Johnson (Clark), Weems and Melton (Straight), and Lewis (Alabama State) made excellent records as backfield players. The linemen named on the second and third teams were good performers.

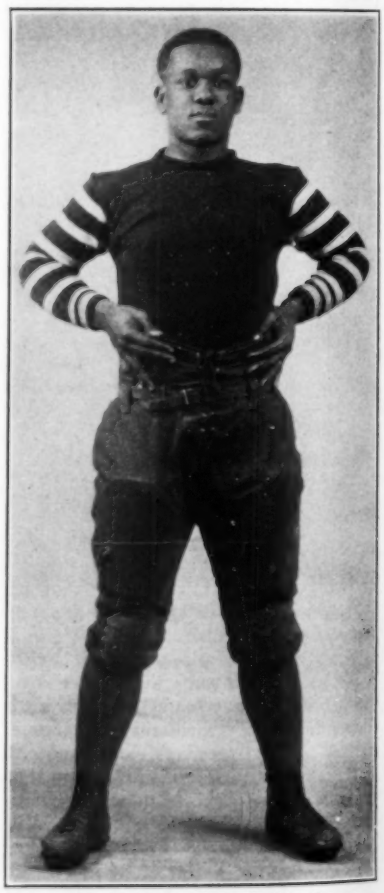
THOSE who have watched the progress of foot ball in Negro colleges know that the last five years have witnessed a growth of interest in the game that has few parallels in sport history. Negro college foot ball in 1928 attained a stature greater than ever known and proficient teams were developed in every section of the country.

Many intersectional games were played in 1928. Wilberforce matched wits with Knoxville and Virginia Union at Wilberforce, and played Tuskegee and Fisk at Nashville. West Virginia entertained Lincoln, Mo., and Hampton at Charleston, W. Va., and sent them home tagged with defeat. Tuskegee journeyed to North Carolina and played a 7—7 tie with North Carolina A. and T. Bluefield crushed Morehouse at Columbus, Ohio, winning 40—0. An interesting match was played at Montgomery, Ala., between Oklahoma and Alabama State, Oklahoma triumphing 7—0. Howard downed Livingstone in North Carolina, Atlanta in Georgia and Fisk in Washington, D. C., and staged a drawn contest, 0—0, with Bluefield in West Virginia. Wiley and Oklahoma played a 7—7 tie at Dallas, Texas, and Atlanta won from Prairie View at Houston, Texas, on New Year's Day, 7—0.

Bluefield stands out as one of the champions of Negro college foot ball in 1928. It repeated its performance of

Stanley of Atlanta, Quarterback

1927 by defeating all rivals but one, and with that one played a 0—0 tie. In 1927 it was Wilberforce that tied Bluefield; in 1928 it was Howard. Wilberforce, West Virginia, Morgan, Virginia Seminary and College, Morristown, Virginia Union and Morehouse felt the crushing power of Blue-



Jones of Hampton, Fullback

(*Will you please turn to page* 96)

THE N.A.A.C.P. BATTLE FRONT

A 20TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

WHEN the members and friends of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People convene in Cleveland next June, for the Annual Conference of the Association, they will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of what is now the oldest body in America since the Civil War, fighting for the civil status of the Negro as a United States citizen.

The growth of the Association from a small committee, called together at the time of the terrible riots in Springfield, Illinois, Lincoln's home, is dramatic and inspiring. Three hundred and fifty branches in forty-four states and individual members to the number of 100,000 of both races are now united upon a common program. And it is in the record of the Association that with a pitifully insignificant expenditure of money, many decisive and far-reaching steps have been taken toward the achievement of its aims.

The Association began with appeals to law enforcement authorities and to public sentiment, for a minimum of decency and human justice. It developed into a fact-finding instrument whose investigators penetrated the scenes of desperate cruelty and injustice and, often at risk of their lives, gave the facts of the American Negro's situation to the civilized world. It enlisted in its cause a number of the most prominent and the ablest attorneys in the country, including its venerable President, Moorfield Storey, and of late years, the celebrated authority on constitutional law, Louis Marshall, and the outstanding criminal lawyer and humanitarian, Clarence Darrow.

ITS propaganda, its marshalling of an enlightened public sentiment in defence of the Negro's rights, have been in no wise diminished in recent years. But accompanying these, has been a battery of legal victories which establish the foundations upon which Negroes everywhere may take their stand. Five decisive victories before the United States Supreme Court stand to the credit of the N. A. A. C. P. and the principles established are vital not to the Negro alone, but to every United States citizen solicitous that the ideals upon which the democratic experiment is founded be realized.

These victories and the other work of the Association have been achieved with startling economy. Had there not been celebrated counsel willing to give their services, anyone of the important legal victories won by the Association might easily have cost more than the Association spent upon its entire work during one or even two years.

This is the 20th Anniversary Year of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and everybody who appreciates its work should join in the celebration.

It is hardly necessary to rehearse these victories and their significance. A brief reference to each will suffice to call it to mind. There is first of all the celebrated Louisville Segregation case, forever outlawing residential segregation by state or city enactment in America. There is the deadly blow delivered at peonage in the Arkansas Peonage cases, carried before the Supreme Courts of Arkansas and the United States, by which colored farmers were freed of death sentences and long imprisonment and the facts of the debt slavery system made known to the world. There was the Louisiana segregation case, reaffirming the principles established by the Louisville case. There was the Texas White Primary case, a blow struck at the disfranchisement of colored Americans in the South, following the N. A. A. C. P. participation in the epoch-making Grandfather Clause case.

Nominations Asked For Spingarn Medal

The highest honor bestowed annually upon an American citizen of African descent, awaits further nominations. The N. A. A. C. P. announces that further nominations for the award of the medal this year are invited. The medal will be presented in Cleveland this June, at the 20th Annual Conference of the N. A. A. C. P. Nominations should be addressed to Bishop John Hurst, Chairman Spingarn Medal Award Committee, N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Nominations should name the specific achievement or lifework on the basis of which the award is recommended, and should be accompanied by brief life history of the nominee.

In almost all of the work it has undertaken, the N. A. A. C. P. has been a pioneer, nowhere more so than in its campaign against lynching. First it established the facts and demolished the pretext of "the usual crime", as an excuse for the barbarous practices. Then it went to the country, unremittingly and relentlessly, carrying its fight into the halls of the United States Congress, procuring the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill by a vote of 230 to 119, a measure blocked only by filibuster of southern senators who threatened to hold up the business of the nation until the bill was dropped.

Other organizations have paid tribute to this pioneering of the N. A. A. C. P. against lynching. And it is probably fair to say that the reduction of lynching figures to the unprecedentedly low figure of eleven for the year 1928, is due more to the work of this Association than to any one other single cause.

The Association was first, also, to recognize and to call public attention to the dangerous form of intolerance and bigotry made manifest in the Ku Klux Klan, and it fought this misguided body with the most deadly and the most effective weapon at hand: pitiless publicity.

This is to leave out of account entirely the quickening of hope and courage in many local communities, which the Association has been instrumental in bringing about. In innumerable cases the National Office has taken complete command of a contest against injustice. It did so in the celebrated Sweet case in Detroit, where eleven colored people, defending a home from mob threats and attack were subjected to indictment on a charge of first degree murder. It has taken command in many other difficult and dangerous situations. But increasingly, its advice and encouragement and, often, its financial aid, have enabled communities of colored Americans to fight and to win their own battles, one of the latest being the defeat of the segregation attempt in the Charleston, West Virginia, public library.

TWENTY annual reports of the Association contain only a skeleton outline of the work which has been accomplished. Those reports are, if anything, understatements. They are brief, and months and months of labor

(*Will you please turn to page* 97)

Negro Illness and the Nation's Health

By EDWIN R. EMBREE

President of the Julius Rosenwald Fund

ANYTHING that affects the Negro today concerns the American nation as a whole. One-tenth of our total population is colored. And no longer is the Negro only a resident in the rural South. He has moved north in great numbers and he has gone from the farm to the cities both north and south. About one-fifth of the Negro population now lives in the northern and western states and a full third of this race is living in cities and towns.

The Negro is widely distributed throughout the United States. His industry, his art and music are national assets. His ignorance and his disease are liabilities and dangers not only to him and his group but to the entire country. Especially in health the interests and lives of the races are inextricably woven together. If a mosquito bites a malarial Negro, that busy insect is very likely next to bite you or your white neighbor and transmit the fever with no regard whatever for color or social caste. Hookworm disease, supposed to have been brought into this country by black slaves, has now been passed on almost entirely to the whites. A colored cook coming one morning to her fashionable white employer in Virginia was anxiously warned by the mistress to stop at the gate since measles had broken out in the manor house and germs might be picked up and carried back. "That's all right," laughed the cook, "My children have been having measles for a month." Disease knows no color line. Jim Crow laws do not hold for germs of measles, tuberculosis, pneumonia and typhoid.

CONDITIONS of health among Negroes are still far below American standard. A bulletin issued in February, 1928, by the State Department of Public Health of Illinois gives a striking picture of the difference between Negro and white mortality. This bulletin reports that during the four-year period 1922 to 1925 for the entire state of Illinois the annual death rate among Negroes was 23.0 per thousand as contrasted with 11.2 for whites. In this state for the period 1922 to 1925 the number of deaths actually exceeded that of registered births among the colored people, although the average Negro birth rate for 1925 was 22.5 per thousand, substantially higher than that for the whites. Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan show shocking death rates, exceeding or approaching the traditionally large number of births in this group.

We all know what Julius Rosenwald has done for housing colored schools and giving buildings to colored Y. M. C. A's. This, however, is but the beginning of his philanthropy. He is turning to larger matters of housing and health, and the author of this article is President of the organization which is launching this wider program.

One should not be too much alarmed by the conditions reported for a few northern states during a period known to be one of transition and of adjustment of large masses of Negroes to new and trying conditions in industrial centers. Conditions in the South where, over a long number of years, the Negro has adjusted himself, show on the whole much better records both for sickness and death. The death rate for Negroes throughout the entire country is 18.2. This is much better than the figures for several northern industrial centers, but still compares unfavorably with the death rate of 11.2 for whites.

The current records of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, which has on its books more than two million Negroes, a fifth of the total colored population, are on the whole much more reassuring. These policy holders include men, women and children of all ages, working in every conceivable occupation, and living in all sections of the country. Dr. Louis I. Dublin in recent books and articles reports, from the extensive experience of that company, that the average death rate of these two million policy holders has declined from 17.5 per thousand in 1911 to 14.6 in 1926. While in a sense the insured are a picked group, still the large numbers included make the findings significant. Dr. Dublin's study indicates that Negro health has greatly improved during the past few decades, that it is in about the position of white health in this country thirty or forty years ago, and that further concerted and intelligent attack may be expected to show corresponding gains in years ahead.

WE must remember that death is not the only index of health. While authoritative figures that will show the amount of current sickness are almost impossible to obtain, it is evident that the higher death rate by no means tells the entire story of Negro health handicaps. Sickness in both mild and acute form is known to be much greater among the colored people; incapacities due to accidents, and painful illness and malformations due to improper medical attention are conspicuous. Illness and incapacity retard the race and represent a great economic loss to the Negro and to the nation.

However bad conditions are in given localities there is no evidence that the group will die out or even diminish in number. On the other hand there is no likelihood that the Negro will increase at any rapid rate or begin to press the white man by sheer force of numbers. As a matter of fact, while the colored population of America has steadily increased since the first arrivals from Africa, it has for over a century quite as steadily decreased in proportion to the total population. During the past century the Negroes increased from a million and three quarters in 1820 to about ten and a half millions in 1920, the latest national census. Yet their rate of increase has been steadily slowing down and, while a hundred years ago they numbered almost 20 per cent of the total population, by 1920 they were just under 10 per cent of the entire nation.

The Negro, as any other group in the population, begins to have smaller families as he rises in the economic and social scale. Better public health has not brought a great onrush of population among the white in America and it will not do so among the colored. "Fewer and better babies" is the rule as prosperity, intelligence and health increase.

My purpose is simply to call attention to the problem of Negro illness and to its direct influence on the health of the nation. The answer lies in improved sanitation, good doctors and nurses who in increasing numbers must be members of the race, hospitals and clinics and health education. Under pressure of economy and time saving it is easy and natural to neglect or ignore the colored people. But germs cannot be segregated. Democracy and

(*Will you please turn to page* 97)

THE POET'S CORNER

Porter at Grand Central

By JEREMY SAMAROFF

I LIKE you.
For the way the blue-black grape-curls kiss your forehead.
For your cheeks like ripe golden fruit, nourished by far-away suns.
For your bright, indolent grin,
And the honey-smooth sounds that words make
When you say them.

But most of all, little brown boy,
I like you for the high, proud fire in your eyes
As you capably and indifferently sling over your shoulder
The tooled leather suitcase of that highly scented lady,
As you deftly and contemptuously place her snuffing overfed Chow
In the crook of your elbow.
Because I know that you know
You're better than she is.

Lullaby

By AQUAH LALUAH

CLOSE your sleepy eyes, or the pale moonlight will steal you.
Else in the mystic silence, the moon will turn you white,
Then you won't see the sunshine, nor smell the open roses,
Nor love your Mammy any more, whose skin is dark as night.
You will only love the shadows, and the foam upon the billows,
The shadow of the vulture's wings, the call of mystery,
The hooting of the night owl, and the howling of the jackal,
The sighing of the evil winds, the call of mystery,
Wherever moonlight stretches, her arms across the heavens,
You will follow, always follow, till you become instead,
A shade in human draperies, with palm fronds for your pillow,
In place of Mammy's bibini*, asleep on his wee bed.

* "Bibini" is Fantee for Baby-boy.

Life is a See-Saw

By ANITA SCOTT COLEMAN

LIFE is a see-saw.
Sorrow strides one end of the board
Joy is poised upon the other.
Sorrow rides low;
Joy rides high.
Joy cannot lift up sorrow
Sorrow cannot bring joy down.
I have ridden with sorrow low, so low.
I have seen him of my heart bereft,
Seen him weeping for a well-loved one
Who was cold and quiescent in death.
Joy cannot lift up sorrow
Sorrow cannot bring joy low.
I have ridden with joy, high so high.
I have seen a babe new born
And heard his new born cry
Beheld his hand no bigger than the petal of a flower, flutter with infant quest
And fall to rest, with peace
Beyond all worldliness at my own breast.
Sorrow rides low;
Joy rides high.

Funeral Design

By ISABEL MC MEEKIN

THE heavy flowers are banked against the wall,
And paganly enchant the stifling air,
The Christian tapers flicker banner-tall,
And music makes dim background to a prayer.
The minister's dull voice drones on at length,
Reciting what he fancies were my ways,
Extolling charity and virtue's strength,
And preaching piety of impious days.
Some of you have come to stare and chatter,
And some to sniff and idly stand about,
Some discuss a certain money matter,
And some express a vague religious doubt.

* * *

Forget the trifling things I did and said,
Remember only, I am happy, dead.

Dark Madonna

By VERNE BRIGHT

NIGHT is an old Negro woman
Hovering above her sleeping children . . .
In an inviolable mesh
Of dreams they lie
Delicately tangled.

Along their brows she draws cool hands
. . .
Her breasts yearn
For the hunger of their waking.

She is a dark madonna
Rocking the cradle of the moon—
Her eyes are stars
And her voice
The wind going over . . .

She whispers fabled words—
Slow sleep-tunes to her children
Dreaming . . .

Night is a dark madonna . . .

After Drought

By CHARLES B. JOHNSON

THE grass smiles up to kiss the rain,
The earth's dry lips are cracked with pain;
Gay children in the sodden street,
The cool drops spatter with their feet.

My soul looks up with sudden peace
From drops of grace His wells release,
His children in the showers laugh,
The while their souls the blessings quaff.

Peace

By MARION GREEN SCOTT

I STROVE with desperate hands to ope the door,
That barred my sight, Oh, Gracious God from thee,
With futile sighs I plead to see once more
Thy face; then silently
The moon had birth
And Heaven leaned down to brood with tenderness
O'er quiet earth;
And I had peace.

I laid my heart within the sepulcher,
And anguished turned away, so blind with tears
I could not see Thy hand, blest Comforter,
But only barren years;
Then sunset's flame
Recorded in the sky its glowing praise
Of Thy great name;
And I felt peace.

So 'mid the strife and turmoil of the soul,
When torn with doubts and fears we cannot see
Thy plan which worketh good from part to whole
In its entirety,
Some still small voice
Will speak to us in starry solitude;
Then, Soul, rejoice
For gift of peace.

Class Room

By VIRGINIA HOUSTON

Behind him a picture.
Blue gray skies
Phantom clouds
Chasing a topsy-turvy ship
Across an indigo sea . . .

And on those joyous sails
A mirrored image of a bald head
Shattering my dream
Of far away, mysterious lands,
Gold-red sunsets,
Silver-white nights,
Of seas shattering against
A sun splashed deck.

The whisper of the sea in my ears
And the whistle of the wind in the sails
Are replaced by the wheezy murmur
Of an anti-Freudian.

The Little Page

By EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

Calendar Chat

THIS month brings us the Eastertide. Late in March wistful crocus flowers look up to the sky. Spring after spring they have turned upward their gold and purple faces from the wet black earth. Easter's flower is the lily yet Easter's story is told by the crocus. It comes to life when all the world seems dark. It has buried within it light—notice the godlen stigmas and styles. *Saffron,* a name from the far East, brings before us a glowing gold and the saffron and crocus are one.

The radiance of Christ's resurrection is in the coming of the little saffron flower.

Wise Old Willow Oak

"AND now what is so amusing?" quietly demanded the gray old willow oak.

"Everything," chuckled Bluestrip the jay. "Did you hear what that old black man said, the one who was standing beside your trunk a minute ago?"

"No."

"He heard my voice and looked up and said, 'Better get in all your racket now, Brother Jay. Tomorrow's Friday, and every Friday you blue jays have got to go down and report to the devil,' Such nonsense! Where did that old black man get it?"

"Where did the people of England get the idea that a hazel wand could help miners find coal?"

"I haven't been to England."

"Nor have I," said Willow Oak. "I have not lifted my feet, or roots, from Southern soil. My contact comes from the birds that visit my boughs. They bring information. You travel and should know."

"I have heard of witch hazel."

"The tree gets its name from superstition born on British soil. Then again think of the little plant 'sabatini' of New England. For generations this has been held because of its name as something sacred to the Sabbath Day. You will find sprigs of sabatini at altars and elsewhere about the places of worship because some New England people believe today that this plant, a weed, adds sanctity to Sabbath Day. Sabatini was really named for the Italian who discovered it, Sabatini. Up the street's an Italian restaurant keeper with the same name."

"I see," Bluestrip announced brisk-

(*Will you please turn to page* 105)

How would the Little Page kiddies like to write letters to Mrs. Newsome and thank her for all she did for them last year? Write to THE CRISIS and we will forward each letter. And you might tell her, too, what you liked best and what you want done on the Little Page this year.

"Who Are We? We Sent Our Picture But Forgot to Say Who and Why and Where and When?"

THE BROWSING READER

AN AUTUMN LOVE CYCLE. Poems by Georgia Douglas Johnson. Venal. New York.

WITHIN the last ten years, Georgia Douglas Johnson has, through her publishers, brought out three volumes of lyrics, most of which employ—next to food—the oldest theme in the world, and would exquisitely complement a musical setting, here, too, in this united estate of America, where it is decidedly against the law,—Dred Scott, Monroe Doctrine, or, maybe, some unwritten cartel of Marque and Reprisal,—for any person of color to write of love without hypothecating atavistic jungle tones: the rumble of tom-tom, voodoo ebo, fetish of sagebrush and high spliced palm tree—all the primal universal passions often solely associated with Africa,—

Pardon, I did intend writing about Mrs. Johnson's latest book, *An Autumn Love Cycle,* but any digression is logical in an atmosphere where even an offering on the shrine of Parnassus must meet the agony challenge: Aha! It is white. . . . How important! Lo, it is black! Alas! But Life, the book of poetry, cannot relate itself to unrelated persons. Silk purses are no more made of sows' ears than of rayon. The artificial has nothing to offer but surfaces. In these poems the author has come to terms with life, signed the valiant compromise, the Medean alternative, delivering her awareness over to pain. Her sentience speeds to its martyrdom crying,

"Fire—tears—
And the torture-chamber,
With the last maddening turn of the screw—"

As one who believes the admixture of what we call human nature to be changeless, I can recall no better magic for any seasonal lovers than this newest idealization of the emotions:

"Oh night of love, your groves of Strange content
Project a thralldom over coming days;
Exalted, derelict, and blind I went
Unmindfully along Life's misty ways."

If with us the practice of a book of verses underneath the bough, or, better still, before the fire, has grown into sneering disrepute, it threatens the obsequies of the finest art, the gentle art of love-making. Lovers are the only persons left to us of any elegance at all. The last of the aristocrats, the Great Lover moves among his menials with a soul all prinked out in plumes, knee-buckles, and *diamant* shoon. Whatever his age, his past experiences, or physical characteristics, the true lover becomes an abstract creature, as shriven and innocent as at the day of his birth—or death . . .

"Consider me a melody
That serves its simple turn,
Or but the residue of fire
That settles in the urn . . ."

You will know that such snatches of song are unfair to the singer, but this, and more, Mrs. Johnson has poignantly lineated and set down for whatever God blessed folk remain in this hard-boiled day.

ANNE SPENCER.

Six Best Sellers, CRISIS Book Shop, December, January and February.

Du Bois: Dark Princess.
Hill: Toussaint L'Ouverture.
Green: Negro in Contemporary Literature.
Johnson: American Negro Poetry.
Cullen: Copper Sun.
Woodson: Negro in Our History.

NIGGER TO NIGGER. E. C. L. Adams. Scribners.

THE author of "Congaree Sketches" has given us another volume of the philosophy of Negroes in the Congaree section of South Carolina The work of Mr. Adams must not be confounded with Harlem cabaret stuff or with the impossible "Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder". The material published here is serious and often beautiful philosophy of the peasant Negro and the outlook upon life is everything that a black man could wish. Take, for instance, a bit from "The Yellow Bastard":

"De door is shet to me. Hemmed in on every side, I has nothin' but dreams. An' my thoughts is floatin' out, floatin' far above de tall tree tops, here an' dere, listenin' to de wind's soft tune above de tree tops an' de clouds. Across de stars dey wander for a lonely moment, an' den back again an' down, down into de mire. For de door is shet to me. Hemmed in, hemmed in on every side."

AFRIKA SINGT. Eine Auslese Neuer Afro-Amerikanischer Lyrik, by Anna Nussbaum. [African Sings. An anthology of the newer Afro-American poets.] F. G. Speidle, Vienna and Leipzig.

FOUR German writers, under the editorship of Anna Nussbaum, have translated and published a beautiful German book of Negro-American poets. It is tastefully bound, and excellently planned. The translations are done with care and taste. In her foreword the editor says: "For the first time an attempt has been made in this book to present a comprehensive selection of Afro-American lyrics in the German language. Afro-American lyrics: songs of Negroes living in America who in their race feeling find spiritual root in Africa. For this reason our title is chosen and our thoughts are directed with this in view . . ."

"Africa Sings with young voices; with longing for the magic of the old home land, which is as old as the world. The pain from a thousand years of oppression in a strange land; blind inborn faith in deliverance; riotous joy of life and deepest humiliation; but also the recognition of their own worth; the manly determination to do; the powerful devotion to high ideals. The race problem becomes a class problem. Both will and must find solution. These voices, so different, all deserve to be heard. Their songs are stirring, cries for help toward freedom and promising witnesses for light amid striving humanity."

The Anthology has 100 poems divided into 9 sections. The sections are: "I Am a Negro", "The White God", "The New Home", "Work", "You White Folk", "The Black Woman", "Harlem", "The Poet's Dream", "Love", "Freedom", and "The Blues".

The following poets are represented: Langston Hughes, thirty-seven poems; Claude McKay, twenty-one; Countee Cullen, ten; Georgia Johnson, seven; Jean Toomer, six; Joseph Cotter, Jr., Frank Horne, Waring Cuny, Fenton Johnson, James W. Johnson and Arna Bontemps two each; W. E. B. Du Bois, Otto Bohannan, Helene Johnson, Gwendolyn Bennett, Angelina Grimké, Jessie Fauset, and Lewis Alexander, one each.

(*Will you please turn to page* 98)

ALONG THE COLOR LINE

The year 1929 is already in its third month and those who are going to use it for banners must hurry and get started.

NEW ENGLAND

¶ The Allied Art Players of Boston under Maud Cuney Hare are keeping their banners flying. Last year they gave "Ivory, Ebony and Gold", described as "a handglass of fact and fancy," also a children's play, and Eugene O'Neills "The Dreamy Kid", and a workshop play "Backstage". They have had hard sledding but they keep at it.

THE MIDDLE STATES

¶ Will Rogers, the comedian, introduces distinguished guests from the stage now and then. Recently, he introduced to his audience R. R. Moton of Tuskegee.

¶ Myles Paige is a young colored attorney of New York City. He has just been appointed an Assistant in the New York State Labor Department. He is a Fisk man and has done good work.

¶ Grace P. Postles is a graduate of the William Penn High School for Girls in Philadelphia. She is now a Senior at Emerson College and recently talked before three thousand students of her High School on Negro poets.

¶ Jules Bledsoe, who sings "Old Man River" in "Show Boat," is giving only one song recital this season; this took place at the Gallo Theater, New York City, and included songs from various great composers; and one scene from Verdi's "Aida", with a white woman singer. It was well done, but some New Yorkers felt uneasy as the hero spurned the lady's love!

¶ T. Spotuas Burwell, president of the National Medical Association, was born in Williamsboro, N. C. in 1876. Dr. Burwell was educated in the public schools of Williamsboro and at Henderson Normal Institute, Henderson, N. C. In 1900 he was graduated from Lincoln University with the A.B. degree and in 1907 from the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia with the M.D. degree. Dr. Burwell was appointed as Clinical Assistant in the Department of Diseases of the Chest, at Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, in 1915, and as chief of the Department of Internal Medicine, Douglas Hospital, of the same city, in 1919.

¶ The sixty pictures which the Harmon Foundation and the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches recently exhibited in New York have now begun to travel over the country and will be seen in Hartford, Youngstown, Indianapolis, Chicago, Nashville, Atlanta, Washington, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Boston.

¶ Paul L. Nicholson, a colored graduate of the Stenographer's Institute, Philadelphia, recently won a competitive stenographic contest in Philadelphia. He wrote ninety words a minute and got a position at $1,200 a year.

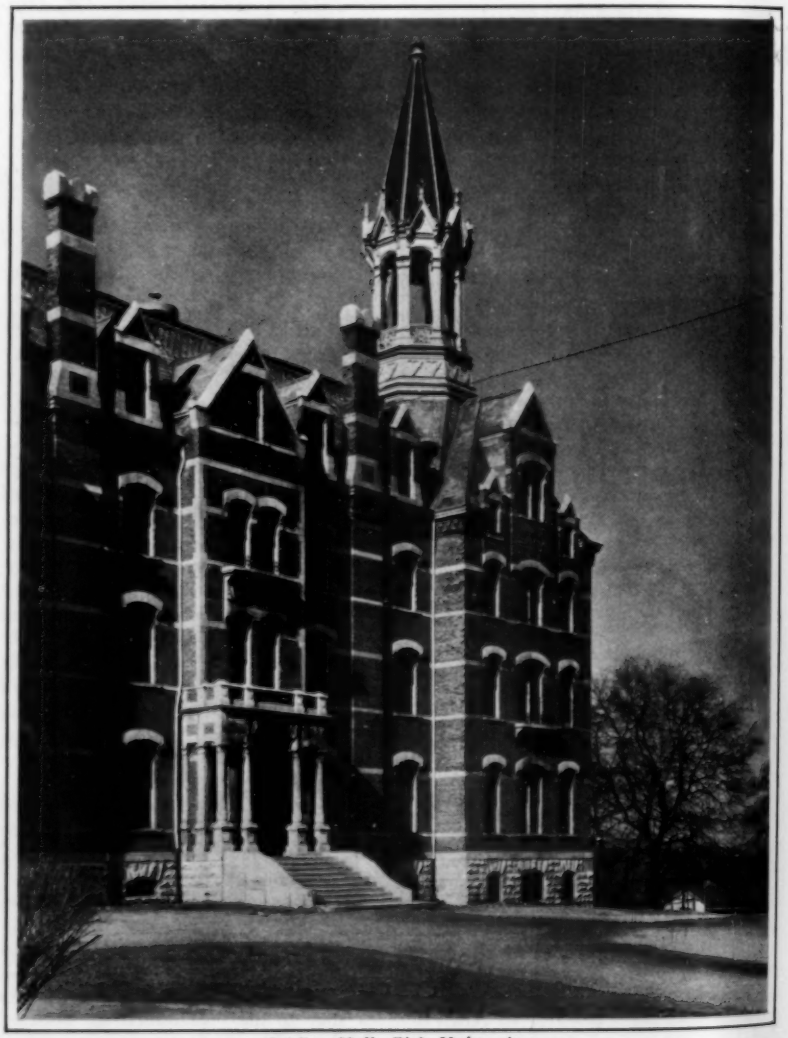
¶ The Society for Ethical Culture in New York City has listened to James Wildon Johnson on "The White and Colored Races. How can they best live side by side."

¶ At his death, Henry Mungar of Princeton, New Jersey, left $50,000 to Hampton and $25,000 to Tuskegee.

WASHINGTON and VIRGINIA

¶ Charles P. Ford is dead at Washington at the age fo 47. He was on the Legal Staff of the Department of the Interior and served six terms as Grand Master of the colored Masons of the District of Columbia.

¶ The Madame C. J. Walker Gold Medal is awarded annually for the most meritorious service to the colored



Jubilee Hall, Fisk University.

The New $400,000 Library, Fisk University.

people achieved through the N. A. A. C. P. Mrs. Memphis T. Garrison of Gary, West Virginia, who has been selling N. A. A. C. P Christmas seals, will receive the medal in June.

¶ The death of J. Percy Bond at Washington, D. C., removed one of our best business men. He was born in Boston sixty years ago; became a clerk on the Boston and Maine Railroad; then went to Tuskegee as Superintendent of Grounds; and then to Birmingham, Alabama, where he was a retail haberdasher. For the last twenty years he has been in the insurance business, representing the Standard Life and recently the Victory Life, for which he became Regional Director.

¶ For twenty-eight years M. G. Gardner taught the colored school at Chestnut Grove, Virginia. He was born in 1872; educated at Virginia Theological Seminary, and College, and then became teacher of the village school; and not simply teacher, but social worker and generous helper in the community. Twenty-eight years of humble reverent service!

SOUTHEAST

¶ The Phi Delta Kappa Sorority met at Orangeburg, South Carolina with nine of the ten chapters represented. It will meet in Philadelphia next year.

¶ Dr. Alfred D. Jones served twenty-five years as college physician at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, and as a loyal alumnus and athletic fan. He died early in December.

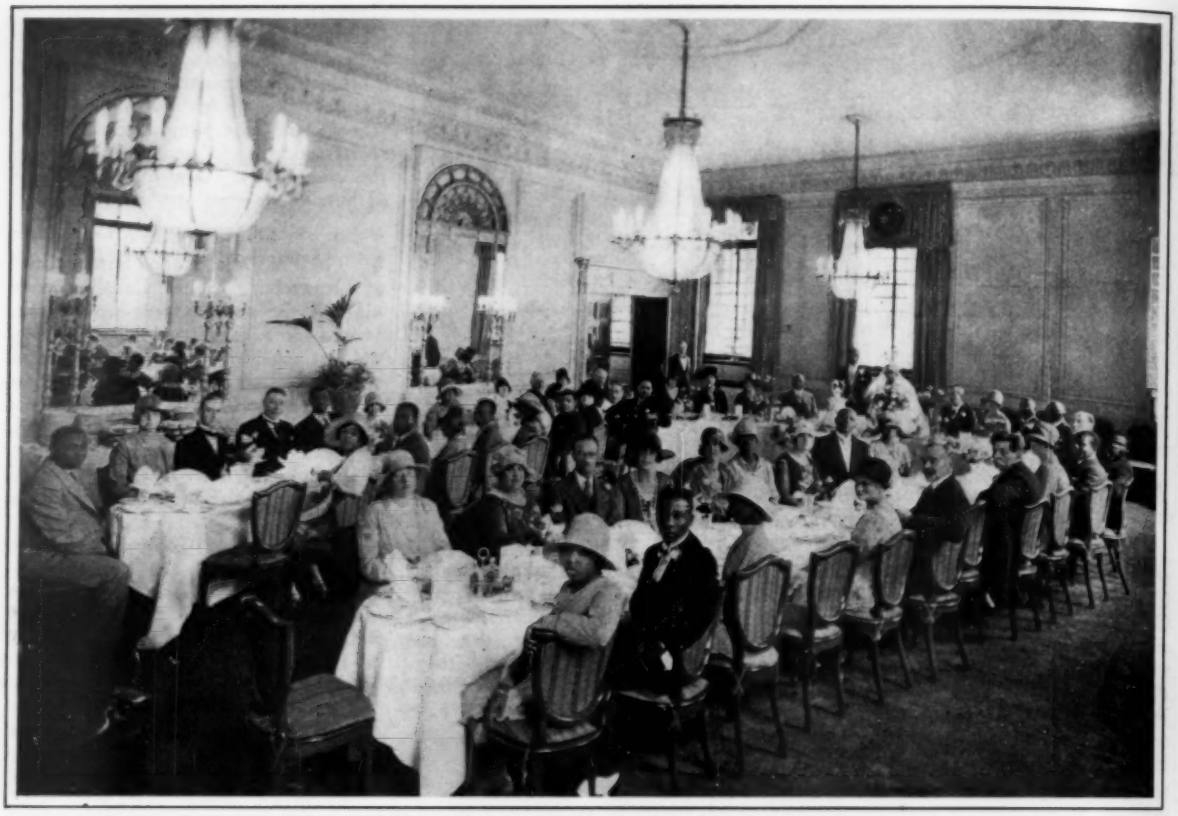
¶ Atlanta University has dropped her high school and is now simply a college.

¶ Phil Price of Coldwater, Mississippi, was one of the largest landholders in Tate County, with over a thousand acres of fine farm lands. He was born in slavery and died recently at the age of 104.

¶ Benjamin N. Duke, the tobacco magnate, left at his death, $115,000 to Negro institutions in North Carolina. The college at Durham received $50,000; the hospital at Gastonia, $25,000

At the Washington Inter-racial Conference.

Messrs. C. C. Spaulding, Arthur Spingarn, W. A. Robinson, A. B. Jackson, H. A. Miller, Kelly Miller, C. S. Johnson, Julius Rosenwald, R. C. Bruce, R. R. Moton, G. C. Clement, Mordecai Johnson, T. E. Jones, J. A. Cobb, L. H. Wood, E. C. Atwell, C. H. Wesley, James Weldon Johnson, R. W. Brooks, T. Arnold Hill, W. A. Valentine; Mesdames Hunton, Georgia Johnson, McDowell, Dickerson, Bethune, Slowe, Bowles, Burroughs, Chapin, Chambers, Ovington, Van Kleeck; and others.



A West African Wedding Celebrated in London.

for its Negro ward; Kittrell College, $20,000; the orphanage at Oxford, $15,000; and the orphanage at Winston-Salem, $5,000.

¶ The National Builders' Association held their Seventh annual conference at Hampton Institute in February.

¶ Morehouse College has begun its campaign to raise $300,000 toward endowment.

¶ The *Campus Mirror,* Spelman College publication, presented "The Passing of the Third Floor Back", a play by Jerome K. Jerome, recently. The production was directed by Miss Anna M. Cooke, assisted by Miss Lillie Roudabush and Miss Mae Neptune.

THE BORDER STATES

¶ Roger Williams University was founded at Nashville in 1866. The trustees sold its fine site to Peabody College at a sacrifice and for a long time the colored people tried to rebuild the institution in Nashville. At last the school has been transferred to Memphis and merged with Howe College. The combined institutions will be known as Roger Williams College, and eventually new buildings will be erected on a thirty-acre campus.

¶ Colored people are poor because the positions open to them pay small salaries. Nevertheless, they have often been blamed for not supporting their schools. Recently, however, a series of bequests from colored men show that eventually Negroes are going to support higher education. James Dallas Burrus, a member of the first College class of Fisk University, died recently at Nashville and left an estate which may amount to $100,000 to Fisk University. Mr. Burrus worked as a teacher and a surveyor, and then opened a drug store in Nashville.

¶ At a meeting of the Tennessee Hi-Y Congress in Nashville last January, among the fifty-two delegates from thirty public schools, there were, for the first time, eight delegates from two Negro high schools. They were accorded every respect and courtesy, including the banquet at Farragut Hotel. A passing reference to "colored" delegates was struck out of the minutes at the instance of a white boy.

¶ The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority met at Nashville. The Philadelphia Chapter received the cup for greatest achievement during the year and the New York Chapter received the scholarship award.

THE MIDDLE WEST

¶ William H. Clifford, who is dead at Washington, was in the government service thirty years and was once a member of the Ohio legislature. As Deputy Clerk in charge of the Cost Accounting Division of the state, he installed a system which is still in use.

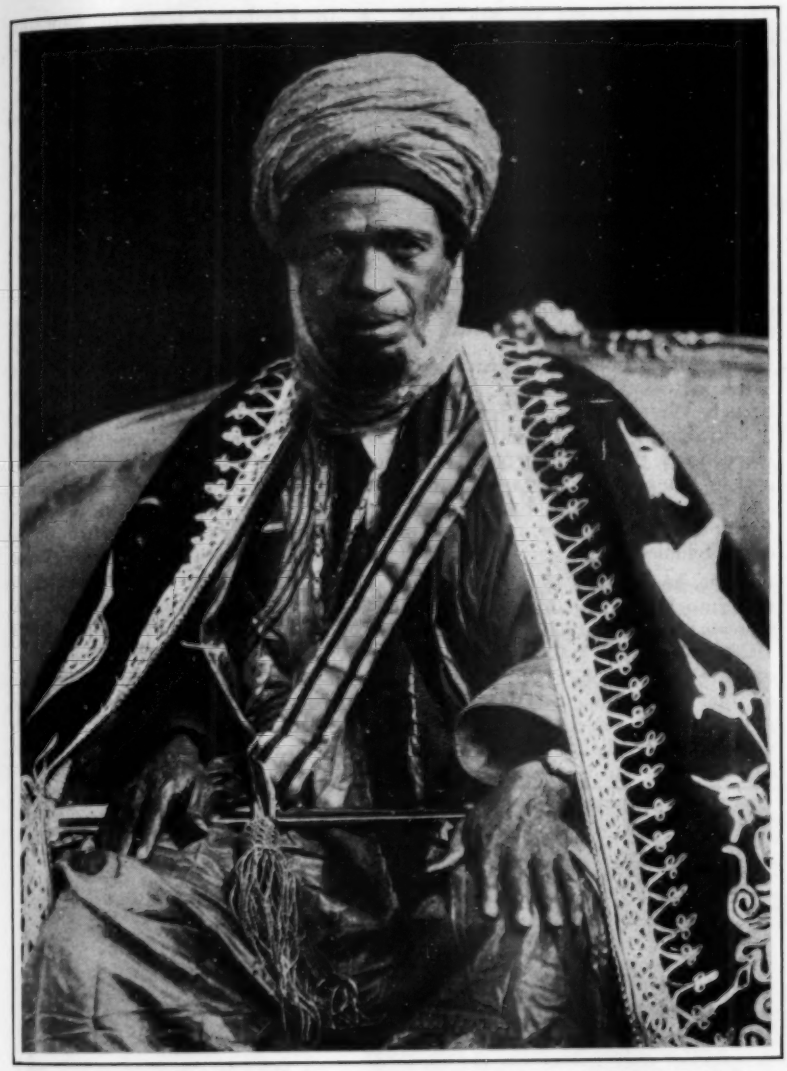
¶ Miles Heights is a suburb of Cleveland with 700 voters, two-thirds of whom are white. When the white mayor died, the colored president of the village council, Arthur Johnson, became Mayor. He is repair foreman in the County Road Department.

¶ Two hundred and fifty members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity attended the 18th Annual Conference at Indianapolis. Two national scholarships were awarded to colored students in white and Negro schools. A scholarship for foreign graduate study was given to Forrest O. Higgins, who is at the Sorbonne, Paris.

TRANS MISSISSIPPI

¶ We pictured Dr. A. Porter Davis, the colored physician who owns and flies an aeroplane at Kansas City, Kansas. Recently, Dr. Davis has received his commercial pilot's license from the United States Government. He is, we believe, the first Negro to accomplish this.

¶ The University of Nebraska, although supported by the state, has always discriminated in various ways against its colored students. Recently, six Negro students were refused admission to the All-University Dance, and in addition to this, colored men



His Highness, the Emir of Katsena, Northern Nigeria, British West Africa.

have been disqualified from entering the basketball tournament.

SOUTHWEST

¶ Two colored delegates, Dr. Andred E. MacDonald, and Dr. Virdumarus Nichols, have gone from New Orleans to establish a free dental clinic at Cape Palmas, Liberia. The African Educational Association is appropriating $10,000 for this purpose.

¶ A colored real estate dealer, A. K. Leonard, at San Antonio, Texas, is building 30 five-room houses and plans 100 more. They will sell at $3,500 each.

¶ The world has of course forgotten the atrocious lynching of a wounded Negro dragged from a hospital during the Democratic Convention at Houston, Texas. The police named seven participants and arrested six of them. In the two cases that have come to trial, both of the accused persons have been dismissed. The seventh man, Bubber Kemp, has returned for vindication. There is small chance that anyone will ever be convicted.

EUROPE

¶ Cardiff, Wales has a considerable colored population with Arabs, Somalis, Senegalese, Egyptians, Indians, Malays, Portuguese and Chinese. Most of these colored foreigners live by themselves, but American Negro sailors are in the habit of mingling with white women in public resorts and there have been frequent marriages. Cardiff is alarmed!

¶ Liberia has for ten years been represented in France by a white man, Baron E. A. Lehmann. Baron Lehmann was born in Belgium, married to an American woman and has just died. His burial was attended by a large assembly of distinguished people.

¶ The Executive Council of the International Institute of African Languages and Cultures met in Berlin during the week of December 20, 1928. Lord Lugard presided.

¶ The report of the Jerusalem meeting of the International Missionary Council has been published at the Oxford University Press in 8 volumes. Most of the papers submitted to the conference are printed in full.

SOUTH AFRICA

¶ The Union of South Africa spent $2,500,000 in 1926-27 to keep 200,000 native children in school. This left 545,000 native children of school age with no accommodations.

¶ A school for training native girls in Domestic Science is being built at Pretoria by the Native Women's Prayer Union which has six thousand members.

¶ By an accident at the Crown Mines at Johannesburg, South Africa, eleven natives were killed. More would have perished had it not been for the bravery of two natives, M. K. Gangwana and J. S. Shibalo, who displayed conspicuous bravery. They have been given medals.

¶ The Union of South Africa compels the railroads to employ white labor at a price which makes them pay $2,000,000 a year more than they would pay for native labor doing just as good work. The native labor would, of course, be underpaid just as grossly as the white labor is now overpaid.

¶ In the approaching general election the native question looms above all others. The Nationalist Party is openly opposing the native policy of Cape Colony and has declared for a "white South Africa". The growth of colored trade unionism is greatly alarming the whites. Some of them are proposing a law to prevent Negroes from becoming bakers, butchers and masons.

¶ The Industrial and Commercial Workers Union of South Africa, known as the I. C. U., publishes a six-paged *Worker's Herald*, in Bantu and English. The I. C. U. had an interview with the Honorable W. B. Madely concerning conditions of black workers in the Johannesburg Post Office. Because of his act, Madely was compelled to resign his Cabinet Office of Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. His successor, H. W. Sampson, has declared that he will not recognize the I. C. U. in any way.

¶ A large exhibition of produce and native handiwork has been collected at Beira in Portuguese Africa, for exhibition at a Seville exposition in Spain this year.

WEST AFRICA

¶ It is reported that the French have appointed a commission to investigate the whole question of the representation of the native races of the French colonies in the French Parliament. At present, only a few colonies are represented and the right of suffrage is greatly restricted.

¶ The first native Catholic Priest, Abbé Kwakume, was ordained in French Togoland last September.

¶ A public library has been opened in Monrovia, Liberia. It has 1500 volumes and a reading room. Ex-President Barclay made the main address.

¶ At the Commencement exercises of Liberia College in December there were seven graduates, of whom three belonged to the native tribes. Among the graduates was the eldest son of the President of Liberia. The Commencement address was delivered by the American Minister, William T. Francis, who had the degree of LL.D. conferred upon him.

¶ The Firestone Company has at present 30,000 acres planted in rubber trees in Liberia.

¶ His Highness, Ademola II, Alake of Abeokuta, Nigeria, British West Africa, has celebrated the 8th Anniversary of his coronation. He is said to be an efficient administrator.

¶ Due to the pressure of the West Africa National Congress, the Government of Sierra Leone has established a West African Court of Appeal through a British order-in-council.

¶ There are at present in the Belgian Congo 500 European Catholic priests and 16 native priests. There are 500,000 Roman Catholic natives and 150,000 native children in the Catholic Mission schools.

¶ M. Albert Londres, a French journalist, after a six months' tour in French, West Africa, has been strongly criticizing French colonial methods. He declares that the system of transport by human porters is the main evil, and that the natives of French, West Africa are dying off or migrating to other colonies.

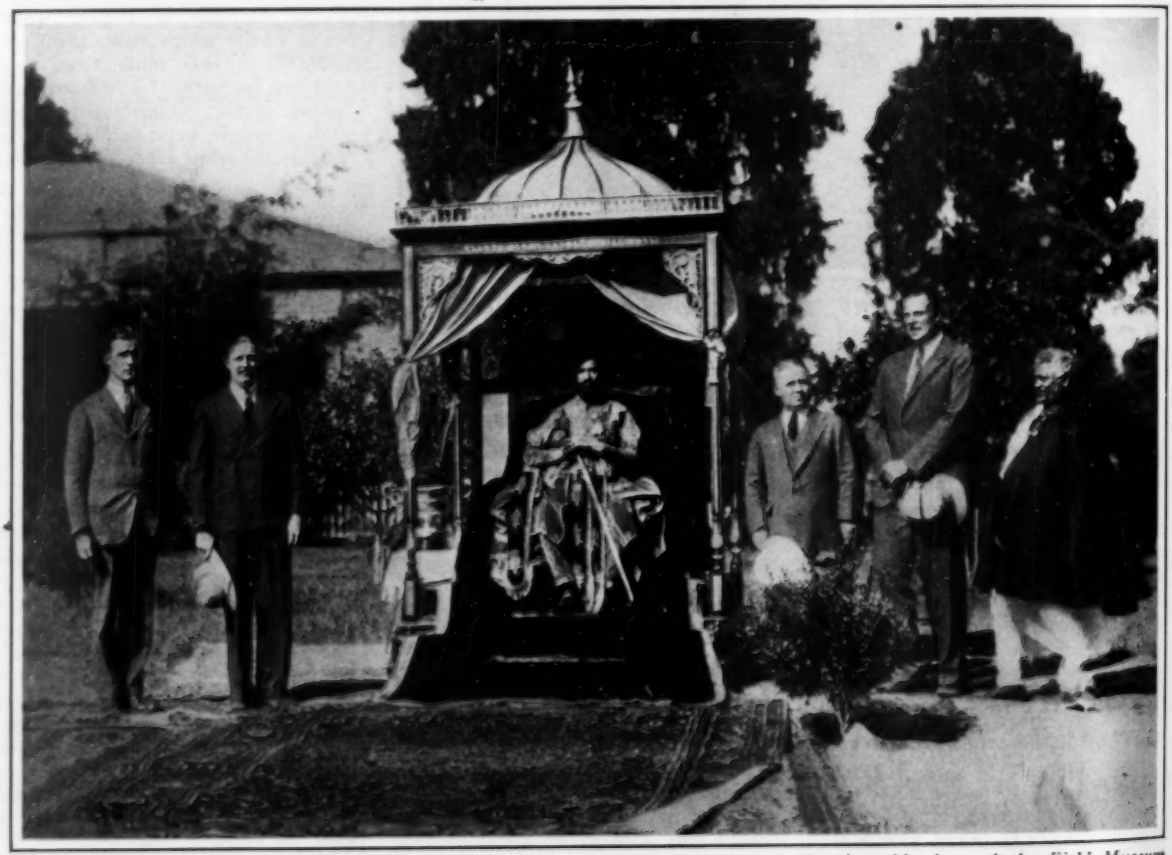
¶ The importation of alcoholic liquors into the British Gold Coast has increased from 179,597 gallons in 1920, to 1,312,258 in 1927, an advance of more than 600%. Ninety per cent of the spirits imported consists of gin. Native leaders are protesting against this flood of liquor.

¶ In Fumbam, capital of Bamoum in French Cameroons, there are African weavers, potters, wood carvers, sculptors and ivory workers. The French have encouraged the natives to use local manufactures rather than importations, so that the native weavers make the cloth and covers, and artisans design the furniture and potters make the pipes and bowls.

EAST AFRICA

¶ The report of the Hilton-Young Commission on the closer union of the British Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa has been issued. It declares that East Africa, as a whole, can never be exclusively a white man's country but must depend upon Negro labor; consequently, the native population must eventually share in political responsibility. The report, therefore, recommends a new Colonial status for the East African colonies which shall be something between Crown colony government and the independence of a self-governing dominion.

¶ Dr. Norman Leys has denied the statement of Thomas Jesse Jones that the present land reservations for the natives in Kenya are ample.



His Royal Highness, Ras Taffari, Negus of Abyssinia, Enthroned at the Reception of American Members of the Field Museum Expedition.

Postscript
by W. E. B. Du Bois

ECONOMIC PRIZES

WE are having a queer experience with the Economic Prizes offered by Negro banks and insurance societies through THE CRISIS. They were announced first early in 1927; then withdrawn because of lack of response, and announced again in March, 1928. At the close of the Contest, December 31, 1928, only twenty-one entries were received, and of these only six came anywhere near the requirements laid down. These requirements asked "for stories, essays or cartoons which will illustrate or study or tell the story of the economic development of the Negro." We will consider carefully the merits of the six entrants and announce our decision concerning them in the May number of THE CRISIS.

Meantime, however, it seems certain that the young Negro writers and thinkers of today are not applying their minds to the economic problem of their race. And yet that problem is, and, for many generations, must be, the central problem of our existence and survival. How are we going to bring the attention of the young to the importance of that problem? Manifestly prizes for writing are not effective. What will be effective? We shall be glad to learn.

THE "BROTHERHOOD" OF RAILWAY TRAINMEN

MR. WILLIAM DOAK, Vice President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, which, as Mr. Green assures us, has the sympathy of the American Federation of Labor, is a candidate for Secretary of Labor under President Hoover. We trust that if he is appointed it will be with no misapprehension on the part of the President-elect as to the sort of thing that he is doing.

William Doak was for a long time an employee in the great railroad yards of the city of Bluefield, West Virginia, and in his official capacity, there was no one more active and more determined to remove all Negro employees from the railroad than Mr. Doak. He left there and went to Roanoke, Virginia, and there maintained this attitude of hostility.

It was not simply that he kept Negroes out of his Union. According to the Constitution of the Union of which he is Vice President, no person of Negro descent, no matter what his ability, character or training has been, can ever be a member of the Railroad Trainmen's Union. But this is not enough for Mr. Doak. In addition to that, he has tried to see to it that every decent way of earning bread and butter on the part of Negroes, so far as railways are concerned, shall be cut off.

To put a man of this kind in the Cabinet as Secretary of Labor, would be the grimmest joke ever perpetrated at the expense of a long suffering people. There are in the United States numbers of well-meaning folk who ask insistently why Negroes as a mass are the enemies of American Labor, and why they are available for scabs and strike-breakers. One terse answer is Doak.

SPEAKING OF ADVERTISING

TO repeat what I have given voice to elsewhere: for many years advertising in colored papers was looked upon by the majority of advertisers as either charity or blackmail. Someone came to your store on behalf of the struggling little colored weekly. He wanted an advertisement. You gave him and advertisement and paid a couple of dollars. You did not for a moment expect to get any return from it. It was a way of helping a struggling enterprise and the enterprise deserved help.

Or again, some pungent young writer with a bitter tongue began to column and caluminate in the local paper. You thought it wise to keep him off you. Moreover, there might have been reasons why you were a bit sensitive; it it possible that you were "playing the numbers", or gambling in other ways; or that your record had not always been like the driven snow; or that you were more interested in selling goods than in having goods worth selling. In any of these cases, it was wise to see that this young writer did not pay his respects to you. Four or five inches of advertising often arranged that.

All that was years ago. Some traces of the system remain but the mass of Negro papers and advertisers have passed to another phase. Colored advertisers gradually found out, somewhat to their surprise, that advertisements in colored papers now and then brought returns: if an entertainment was going to be given, it made a good deal of difference whether it was advertised in the local paper or not. If there were rooms or houses to rent, if a new store was to be opened, if a lecture was to be given—all these things called for advertisement and the advertisement paid d i r e c t l y and promptly. The columns of Negro newspapers began, therefore, to be filled with this kind of advertising and a good and steady income from this source was gradually built up.

Today, we are entering into a third phase of advertising so far as Negroes are concerned. It is a phase that has long been current among white periodicals. It consists of advertising, not with the idea of direct and immediate sales, but for the sake of establishing and emphasizing a line of thought. Firms that invented and reiterated the words Sapolio, Kodak, Ampico, are not thinking so much of the direct sales which each advertisement will encourage, but they are making the public think in terms of these words. They are establishing a psychology that will make a person turn almost instinctively from "cleaning" to "Sapolio".

Advertising becomes, therefore, a peculiarly effective process of public education, and while these advertisements do not always pull directly, indirectly they make millions think and act.

This phase of advertising, the Negro business man, and the Negro periodical, do not, as yet, justly appreciate. Take, for instance, the case of Negro banks. There are thirty or forty effective Negro banks in the United States. How many Negroes know this? Or, if they know it, realize it? The banks do not advertise to any large extent. This is as true of white banks as it is of Negro banks. But in the case of Negro banks, it is necessary and imperative to establish a new psychology among colored people. All colored people know that there are white banks, and they put most of their money into these banks. The only thing that most of them know about colored banks is

that two good sized ones failed last year. They do not know that the percentage of failure among Negro banks is not any larger, if it is as large, than among white banks; that the average Negro bank is a safe institution to which they can entrust their funds.

Now this kind of fact concerning Negro banks must be brought to the attention of the colored people, and as I have once or twice suggested to the Colored Bankers' Association, they ought to unite in national advertising on a moderate scale to make the colored people realize that there are safe, conservative Negro banks. The colored insurance societies are not so backward. They are realizing that national advertising among colored people pays and that they must do more of it and on a national scale. Other lines of Negro business will come to note this situation, and Negro periodicals are the ones that should be foremost in bringing this psychological phase of advertising to the attention of the whole race.

The whole matter is not simply money making: it is education. The world needs education in economics and business. The education in these lines furnished by advertisers is not always to be trusted—it is often misleading. But an independent and honest periodical will not accept lying and degrading advertisements, nor will it allow any advertiser to dictate its policy. At the same time the fact is today that the advertiser and not the reader gives the periodical, black and white, its main support. While then the business manager is mainly interested in the advertiser, the advertiser is interested in the reader. The editor occupies a curious position between. If he is a hireling and a money-grabber, he says nothing to offend any possible advertiser and caters to the lowest layer of the mass of his readers. If he is a Man with a Message, he hews on and the chips hit fools in the eye and jackasses in the midst of their braying. Verily he has his reward.

"DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME?"

"DON'T you remember me?" I always hear the question with an uncontrollable sinking of heart. I cannot put aside the feeling of panic. I do not remember the person and the person knows perfectly well that I do not. I am desperately trying to find some adequate answer, although I know there is none, and the person is trying, with more or less success, usually less, not to show his pique.

One of my latest experiences was in Asbury Park. I was lecturing on a warm night. There was a large audience in a low ceilinged room,—a kind audience who listened a long time, not simply to what I said, but to what many others said. It was late before I was released and I was tired. I came out on the darkened street. A man was standing in the shadow. I saw his bulk but I have not yet seen his face clearly. He was very dark and reticent.

"Don't you remember me?" he said. I wanted to say, "I have not seen your face yet," but I tried to be pleasant. "I am afraid—" I began gropingly.

He seemed surprised. "Why I was a student at Atlanta," he said. I could feel a surge of resentment boiling up in both of us. I left Atlanta exactly eighteen years before. How many years before that I had seen this boy I do not know. Whether he was a student in my class or just one of the general mass of students, I had no idea. He was a man now evidently of much less than middle-age. Twenty years ago he was a mere boy; did he realize how much he had changed in those years and how many thousands of people I had met in two decades? Did he really expect that, without any help from him, I was going instantly to recall him? If he did, he was disappointed and I was mad. Despite all my resolutions, I get thoroughly out of patience with this kind of thing, and it happens again and again.

Others have their methods of meeting the situation: there was Bishop Turner with his massive body and voice like a bull: "What? Do I know you? Of course, I know you! Now what's your name?" with a hearty thump on the back. "John Smith? Oh yes. And where are you from? Americus? Let's see. Who's your father? Yes? Yes! Yes!"

"He knew me!" says the proud and gleeful man, as he goes away.

Once or twice, tentatively and with hesitation, I have tried that plan. But it won't work—tentatively and with hesitation. Only a master blaggart can put that sort of thing over.

On the other hand, the late Booker Washington, who was Forgetfulness itself, had another method. His Secretary would hasten ahead and canvass the room. By the time Mr. Washington came in, he met him, suave and smiling.

"Mr. Washington, you remember Mr. Jones of Memphis, the President of the bank, who entertained you while you were—" "Oh, yes, yes, Mr. Jones. So glad to see you." This plan works easily, when one can hire traveling Secretaries. Theodore Roosevelt had a natural gift for faces and names, and he cultivated it; he did almost miraculous things in the line of recalling acquaintances. But imagine the time and strength that it must have taken! Perhaps, otherwise, he might be living yet.

Personally, I am hopeless at such deeds of memory. My memory performs the most extraordinary feats. I will remember the red stripe of the table cover at San Diego, California, and utterly forget my own telephone number. And as for the names which are most illogically and inconsequently attached to human beings, I can remember few and seldom.

I do not for a moment discount the misfortune of such lack of ability to recall. Frequently, I would have been willing to pay large sums of money in cash to have been able to say:

"John Bull of Miami! I met you at 3:00 P. M., Saturday, April 4, 1903, at the corner of Beale and what-you-may-call-it Street, Memphis. You had eaten onions for dinner. How is your youngest boy who was then three?" That is what I would like. This is what I get: A dark-eyed lady looks at me reproachfully with—"I have met you three times!" While I am struggling not to blurt out: "My God, woman, you don't think I *want* to forget you, do you?" You see with modern women it is all impossible, anyway. What with a new hat, a short dress, bobbed hair and brown powder, how in the name of Tophet am I going to recognize in 1928 my charming friend of 1923? One of these floated on me at yesternight's gathering. I stood like a dumb fool. There was something familiar, of course, but who the Heck!—Los Angeles, London, Charleston, Memphis?—who, what, when? She went crimson with indignation and flew. So did I. I fell on the Village Gossip. "Who?" I gasped. "Smith!" he yelled. "Gerechtige Gott!" I murmured.

Now I ask why could she not have come up and frankly said: "I am Frances Smith of Nashville!" Why assume that anyone is happy to forget you; or if you do assume it, why speak at all? No, the fact is we colored folk are used to being snubbed and forgotten. We have the complex. We expect it. We expect that if anyone climbs a social ladder or gets notorious for any reason he will celebrate with the cheap snobbery of pretending to forget his former friends. We expect this so faithfully that we recognize it when it is not there and never was.

But what a compliment to pay a poor beggar who wants to be decent to have such an accusation slapped full into his astonished face!

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A "Roman Holiday"

(*Continued from page* 80)

scrambled for souvenirs. But as they scattered toward their homes and began to breathe fresh air not laden with the smell of cooked flesh, they became disgusted and threw away their gruesome trophies.

The crime of a half-wit individual dwindles to insignificance when it is thus compared with the infinite crime of a demented community.

Football, 1928

(*Continued from page* 82)

held. Another claimant of national championship honors is Wiley, Texas Conference champion, which, like Bluefield, won all games but one and staged a tie in that one. Wiley had a fast charging and hard hitting line and a backfield of excellent ball carriers, tossers and punters. Wiley's entire team was good, a smooth-working machine that crushed everything in its path.

OKLAHOMA had a clean record. It won four games and tied two. Its schedule was harder than in 1927. Fighting every minutes of the game, it gave its opponents much to worry about and gained the good will of fans everywhere. Every player was a star, with Miller, end, Doster, center, Anderson, full, and Crisp, quarter, the outstanding lights.

Hampton performed well, winning the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship. It lost but one game, a non-conference affair. Atlanta had one of the strongest combinations in the country. It lost to Tuskegee and beat Clark, and with them, is tied for the championship crown of the Southeastern Athletic Association. West Virginia played superior foot ball all season, winning five games, tying one and losing one. Fisk had a good team, a scrapping, fighting and courageous group of players who were masters of every angle of foot ball.

In Mississippi, Alcorn developed a team which won all games but one, a tie with Southern. Howard, under the excellent coaching of West, former Washington and Jefferson star back, played consistent football, losing but one game, West Virginia trouncing it 27—7. Tuskegee's dream of another year of victories did not materialize. Tuskegee looked weak and worn in its games with Knoxville and North Carolina A. and T., and when Clark defeated it, fans were not surprised. North Carolina A. and T. should have beaten Tuskegee by three touchdowns, but A. and T. failed to play winning

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foot ball during the first half of the fracas.

One of the big surprises of the season was Morgan. Its defeat of Lincoln and its tie with Howard marked it stronger than it was rated to be. It lost only to Bluefield and Virginia State. Injuries to several players in the first game of the season brought Kentucky State losses which it felt during the entire season. Richardson, a tall, strong and game youngster, Kentucky State's center, was everywhere in every game and was one of the most accurate passer-backs of the season. The Wilberforce team lacked punch and power in the early days of 1928. As the season grew older, Wilberforce played better, and in its last game on Thanksgiving Day at Cleveland, Ohio, it outfought and outplayed West Virginia.

Virginia State, Knoxville, Lincoln, Mo., Tennessee State, Arkansas Baptist, Straight, Simmons, Arkansas State A. M. and N., North Carolina State, Livingstone and Prairie View played better than they played last year. North Carolina A. and T., Lincoln, Virginia Seminary and College, Florida A. and M., Alabama State, New Orleans, Paul Quinn, Texas, South Carolina State, Sam Houston, Virginia Union, Talladega, Tougaloo, Lane, St. Paul, Morehouse, Morris Brown, Claflin and Shaw did not show up as well as in 1927.

Negro Health

(*Continued from page* 84)

even selfish regard for the health of any group demand attention to the disease of all. Negro illness is an essential factor in the nation's health.

N.A.A.C.P. Battle Front

(*Continued from page* 83)

is sometimes summarized in a single sentence. But the work stands. It is known to Americans, white and colored, not only throughout the United States but throughout the civilized world.

So the twentieth anniversary year of this association offers something besides an opportunity for stocktaking to the friends of the Association and its work. The year, and the celebrations it is occasioning offer an opportunity to those who know and have shared in and benefited from the work of this Association, to give tangible expression to what they feel.

They can, first of all, make it a task to acquaint those who do not know of the N. A. A. C. P., with what it has done and what it means. They can

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make it their task to say whether this work shall continue to struggle along on insignificant and inadequate budgets or whether it shall be properly financed. They can determine whether the time of the officers of the N. A. A. C. P. must continue to be given to the wasteful task of money-raising or whether they shall be relieved of this burden in order to devote themselves altogether to the work which the Association faces. For many cases, urgent cases, come to the Association which it has not the means to defend.

The Association has proposed for this year of the twentieth anniversary of its foundation, the raising of a fund of $200,000. This means less than two cents per person for each one of the twelve million Negroes in America. It means also that this fund will be a contribution of $10,000 for each year the Association has been in existence.

IS the work of the Association worth two cents apiece to the Negroes of the United States? Has what it has accomplished been worth the sum of ten thousand dollars a year, this money to be used in furthering, extending and strengthening its efforts?

The answer to these questions in this year of 1929, is in the hands of the colored and white friends of the N. A. A. C. P. They know its record. If they do not, the record in detail, can be had for the asking. Whether they live in the North or in the South, they are vitally concerned. William Pickens has rightly said that if any New York or Chicago or Boston or other northern colored man or woman thinks himself or herself a free United States citizen with the privileges of the citizen, let him go to Mississippi and see whether that is true. And the fact remains that while color discrimination remains, it remains an ill that threatens to spread.

So here is the instrument of those who want to make Mississippi as decent a place to live in as New York, to make Florida as safe as for any Negro as Boston. The Association has gone several long steps on this way. But immeasurably much remains to be done. Will the Negroes and white friends of the Association give it ten thousand dollars a year on its twenty-year record of achievement? Will the colored people of America give it two cents apiece? What will you give?

H. J. S.

Browsing Reader

(*Continued from page* 87)

There are short biographical paragraphs attached. The book deserves wide circulation.

We are glad to welcome again the annual, "Black Opals", published by young colored writers of Philadelphia and edited by Nellie R. Bright, Arthur H. Fauset, Allan R. Freelon and James H. Young. It consists of three drawings and twenty poems. The poems are of a high order, particularly the opening one by Marjorie Marshall.

W. E. B. D.

IN THE MAGAZINES

"THE Morality of African Races", an article by E. Torday in the *International Journal of Ethics* for January, should propagate among our Caucasian brethren an inferiority complex. In discussing the ethics of the East African, Mr. Torday says: when it happens that one tribe captured all of the cattle of another, some of the loot was sent back to the defeated enemy so that he might live to fight another day; and when women were captured, the victors *married* them and adopted their children. Trial by jury consisted not the judgment of twelve men "tried and true", but of the judgment of the chief assisted by the whole population. While the East African's sanitary arrangements are not as modern as those of some of the northern countries, they compare quite favorably with those of southern Europe: natives never use water for domestic purposes unless it has been previously filtered; they isolate people suffering from contageous diseases; and they have an excellent knowledge of medicinal plants.

George S. Schuyler writes on "Racial Intermarriage in the United States" for the December issue of *The American Parade*. Mr. Schuyler says that the myth that a natural aversion exists between the white and black races is shattered by the passing of anti-intermarriage laws; and the fact that miscegenation dates from the first appearance of Negroes in this country. Despite the common belief that mixed couples are the "dregs of civilization", Mr. Schuyler found through questionnaires which he sent over the country, that usually these couples are quiet, inconspicuous and of good character. In twenty-nine of the states, mixed couples can be jailed and heavily fined for living in concubinage, and in many cases, have served penitentiary sentences even after the marriage ceremony.

The *Debunker* for January "debunks" the colored ecclesiastic. In discussing the "Menace of the Negro Preacher", the article declares that Negroes as a group are church crazy and that the church has as retarding an effect on the progress of black peo-

ple in this country as four wheel brakes have on the progress of a Ford. White people have consciously and conscientiously inflicted the "church and heaven-bound" complex on their dusky brothers. The Negro church in all its flamboyant glory is best seen in the Baptist, African Methodist Episcopal and African Methodist Episcopal Zion denominations; however, the star performers are the Baptists. Negro ministers draw salaries all out of proportion to the social and spiritual benefit they are to their communities. In closing, the article advises the Negro to become economically stable and to intensify his acquisitive instinct. We need more dollars and intelligence, and less preaching.

In the *Survey* for January 15th, Alain Locke offers a resumé of "The Washington Conference on the American Negro". Mr. Locke says: "The conference did not settle the race question, but it did settle many influential representative minds, and it reinforced much isolated and lonely liberalism with the realization that a rapidly accumulating body of sound facts and human precedent are on the side of progress."

Otto Huiswood in the *Communist* for December in discussing "The Negro and the Trade Unions", gives a summary of the Negro platform of the Communist Party. The Party is fighting for the admittance and the inclusion of Negro workers in existing trade unions on equal basis; and if Negroes are not admitted into existing unions, the Communists will endeavor to organize them into independent unions and continue the fight against segregation from the regular unions. In new unions the Negro must be taken in on the basis of complete equality.

"The Negro student isn't what he used to be," cries the reactionary colored parent and the white philanthropist who is accustomed to dictating the policy of the Negro institution of which he is the benefactor. The stringent rules governing the student bodies of most of the colored institutions, says John Davis in discussing "The Unrest in Negro Colleges" in *The New Student* for January, are based on two fallacies: Negro students are not prepared for the exercise of free will; and the current belief is that the white trustee and executive knows the best method of Negro education. The recurrence of disorders ranging from the expulsion of individual students to wholesale strikes, says Mr. Davis, shows that there is something radically wrong. Consider a typical routine of the Negro college: "Rise at 6:00 o'clock; dressing and arranging rooms, 6:00 to 6:45; inspection, 6:45; breakfast, 7:00; morning session, 8:00 to 12:00; chapel 12:00 to 12:15; dinner, 12:30 to 1:00; afternoon session, 1:15 to 4:10; study, 7:00 to 10:00; inspection, 9:45; retiring signal lights out, 10:15." The Negro student is a toy wound up; what time has he for human contact? Who wouldn't strike?

Editorially the *Nation* for January 16th cries "Shame to Mississippi" and suggests that Governor Bilbo need not investigate the two thousand people who witnessed the mob murder; he need only take steps to depose the sheriff of the county in which Sheppard a colored man, was lynched, the Adjutant General of the Militia who said after he heard that the mob had the Negro, "he ordered his troops home as he was thirty miles from the scene and couldn't do anything anyway", and the prison superintendent who called for troops to find the Negro, but not to protect him when he was found.

"I Nevah Done It," is the crylament of black Satchel Charley, who has been accused of the murder of a southern farmer, a "damned Republican at that", who had fired him because he was a lazy, worthless hand. Satchel Charley is clubbed to unconsciousness and when light drifts back to him, his bleeding lips form the words, "No suh, I nevuh done it." In the course of time, he is convicted of the murder and afterwards confesses to a reporter that he had been sleeping with Jim Black's gal that night—that Jim would surely kill him if he found out. Where could he turn? The white daily refused to militate against Charley's electrocution, because the case was cut and dried—Satchel Charley murdered that white man—that he was sleeping with another black man's "nigger wench" wouldn't make so sensational a story. And so Charley goes to the chair with the words "I nevuh done it" on his lips. The story is by Dave A. Cheavens and can be found in *Plain Talk* for February.

The *Journal of Negro History* for January, 1929, has the following articles: D. R. Taft, "Cultural Opportunities Through Race Contacts", J. H. Johnston, "Documentary Evidence of the Relations of Negroes and Indians"; Sophia A. Walker, "Carpet Baggers". *Africa*, the Journal of the International Institute publishes in its October, 1928 number: "Preferential Marriage", by W. Eiselin; "The Dance", by E. E. Evans-Pritchard; and "The Linguistic Situation in South Africa", by C. M. Doke.

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THE FAR HORIZON

THE SIXTH NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS

The Co-operative League of the United States of America is a federation of about 329 of the most progressive consumers' stores, bakeries, restaurants, apartment houses, credit societies, creameries, and various other types of business undertakings. The membership of these associations is made up of farmers, big and little, factory workers, miners, railroad men, office employees, professional people, in fact, people of every class who know that they are exploited as consumers and are trying to find a remedy in co-operative organization.

The success of the consumers' co-operative movement in America was evidenced at the Sixth National Congress of the Co-operative League of the United States of America, which was held in Waukegan, Illinois, October 29, 30, and 31, 1928. This congress outranked all previous Congresses of the League as regards both delegates present and interest displayed in vital questions. The Co-operative Union of Canada and the Russian Co-operative Movement were represented by delegates. Fraternal greetings to the congress were sent from the Soviet Union, England, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Holland, Tchekkoslovakia, Hungary, Belgium, Latvia, Ukraine, Switzerland, Denmark, France, Scotland, and Spain.

The secretary reported a membership in the League of 155 societies with individual members totaling 77,826 and annual sales totaling $14,000,000 (not including the figures for credit and insurance societies).

Waukegan, Illinois, is a city of less than 40,000 inhabitants and one-third of the population is benefitting from the co-operative movement. This city has five co-operative societies; one among the Lithuanians, one among the Slovenians, two Finnish boarding house societies, and the Co-operative Trading Company including all nationalities.

The Co-operative Trading Company started as a dairy in 1911 with a capital stock of only $630. Since that time the Co-operative has branched out into many lines of business. The sales for the first six months of this year amounted to $325,989.47 paying surplus savings to members amounting to $14,376.00. In 1925 the Co-operative Trading Company spent 7 per cent of their total earnings ($1,500.00) for educational work.

The Co-operative Trading Company acted as host to the Sixth National Co-operative Congress. Co-operators saw there the second largest consumers' dairy in the country as well as the second largest co-operative society. In addition to the dairy department there was the co-operative bakery, two meat stores, and three stores for the sale of general groceries and fresh produce.

The achievements of co-operation are worthy of the study of those who are considering an *economic program* for the Negro.

BOY SCOUTS

The Scout Executives of the United States representing every State in the Union, in convention at Ithaca, New York, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"The committee looks with favor and appreciation upon the progress that has been made since the Hot Springs Conference in making Scouting available to racial groups and recommends that every Council give careful consideration to the subject of making available, at least on an experimental basis, Troop service to boys of other races.

"Rather remarkable progress has been made in developing the Boy Scout Movement among Negro boys. At the Hot Springs Conference in 1926 only 248 Troops were in operation among Negro boys. Practically all of these were in Northern States. At the Ithaca Conference 581 Troops were reported, almost a third of which are in the South, and Troops were reported from every State in the South. The resolution from the committee was proposed by one Southern man and endorsed by another and the report of the committee was unanimously adopted, indicating that the Scout Movement can be counted upon to give wholehearted cooperation in developing Troops among Negro boys.

"While many problems have arisen in connection with the development of the program of work among Negro boys, the Boy Scout Movement has tried very hard to keep to the minimum racial antagonism. A recent report of the National Director says: 'While the Negro boy, the son of Spanish, Japanese, Austrian, Italian, Russian and other foreigners in this country, must be given special attention, it would be criminal for us in the development of this work to raise the race question in any community where there is not already a race consciousness. Our responsibility is to develop conditions so that the largest possible number of boys will become Scouts and to forget the race question wherever it is possible to do this work without the question entering in. It is our obligation, however, to teach the Boy Scout Program to these boys and it is our opportunity to take local conditions as we find them and to make the program effective with leadership available and in spite of the obstacles that may be in the way.'"

THE LAND OF FLOWERS

WE recall this case from 1928: In Orlando, Florida, Haywood Rixby, a Negro, forty years of age, was shot and killed by Chief of Police, H. F. Baker. Rixby is a well-to-do Negro and recently bought a store on Westmoreland and Bently Streets from a white woman. After he had bought the store, he continued to employ the woman. A policeman passed the place and saw the woman working and warned her and her people that she must not work for a Negro. Finally, they got out a warrant against Rixby charging him with "an attempt to assault the girl". The Chief and four of his officers went down to the store, but Rixby was not there. Just as they started away, he drove up in his automobile and got out with his back toward the policemen. As he turned they shot and killed him. They alleged that he was about to draw his pistol; that he was a "bad" Negro and had been arrested several times "on minor offenses". "Rixby was considered wealthy, owned considerable property in West Orlando". The coroner's jury exonerated the Chief of Police.

April 9, 1928. Chief of Police, Baker and four detectives, were indicted by the Orange County Grand Jury and charged with second degree murder. They were released on bonds of $5,000 each. Meantime, a person on the spot writes us: "Please investigate. The police have been keeping Rixby's daughter and wife for a long time. The dead man was a large property owner and had no gun."

The joys of wintering in this land of sun and flowers are quite beyond description.

"JIM CROW" SCHOOLS IN PHILADELPHIA

THE *Philadelphia Tribune,* a colored paper, has the following comment:

Two hundred and sixty-four Negroes are employed in the Philadelphia Public School System. They are distributed as follows: 250 grammar school teachers, 12 principals of grammar schools, 1 supervisor of art, 1 medical examiner. They are restricted to segregated schools. None teach in the junior or high schools. There are 363 public schools in Philadelphia. The total number of teachers in the entire system are 7888. The precentage of colored teachers to the total is slightly over 3 per cent. There are 233 white principals as to 12 Negroes. This condition obtains in spite of the fact that "jim crow" schools were accepted in order to secure employment. It clearly illustrates that equitable distribution can never be obtained where there is distinction based on race or color. The weaker group always receives a great deal less than the stronger. Jim Crow schools give employment to a mere handful as compared with the total Negro population. As a purely job securing proposition segregated schools fail in their objective.

NEAR NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE ENGLAND

DEAR CRISIS:

As it seems possible you may not see our excellent old Sunday paper, *The Observer,* I take great pleasure in sending you this interesting letter from today's issue. As child of a noble couple who, eighty years ago, risked all and lost nearly all worldly things in the cause of human freedom, my faith is being greatly strengthened by the increasing evidence that our whole race—all mankind—is being brought to the one and only true standard of life and conduct, Jesus Christ. On this side the world Sheppard's "Impatience of a Parson", following close after Jones' "The Christ of the Indian Road" is recognized as the great event of 1927, and the Orient's challenge of our "falsely so-called" Christianity is disintegrating the strongholds of ecclesiastical legalism.

A few evenings ago I stepped in at a Liberal Club political "talkfest" and heard with surprise and comfort the chief speaker, candidate for Parliament, protest determinedly against the practice, universal in England, of using the opprobrious epithet, "Nigger". He had lived in Africa and Negroes are men with many fine qualities, some suited to shame us who think ourselves 1,000 years in advance of them! This, in contrast with a beastly young British bully on the Gold Coast.

THE CRISIS interests me more and more. I mourn the loss of that splendid spirit and artist, Florence Mills. Sometimes I'm tempted to turn over to the N. A. A. C. P. my old birthplace of thirteen acres in Illinois, a "Station of the Underground Railroad".

Keep Sweet, and Heaven give you more grace and power.

C. F. CUTTER.

FRANCE

SO far as we French colored people are concerned the question of color for the moment still presents itself in a manner less brutal than anywhere else. It remains however true that even here as elsewhere the same result is aimed at: that of utilizing colored people only to the extent wherein they may

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be helpful toward securing the happiness of a society from which they themselves are almost if not completely excluded.

My country, Martinique, belongs almost throughout its whole extent to a group of whites who exploit us severely and to a large degree we have been the builders of their power. Naively we used to believe especially after the war that we merited a better fate. We thought we would find some compensation by living in France. I am thirty years old and I have lived here a dozen years and I am heart-broken at having to say that our situation here is becoming difficult and delicate because people wish to see in us merely undesirable rivals whenever we seek to raise ourselves above the level where people secretly but more or less adroitly try to keep us. We must reckon seriously therefore with this sentiment of which you spoke for it might stifle every sentiment of justice and humanity in this country, France, which is already becoming strongly susceptible to the Anglo-Saxon point of view, assimilating however its bad side more rapidly than its good.

I do not feel that I am formulating this opinion lightly; it is the fruit of a dozen years of observation and of reflections based on the most intimate contact with the French in the army and in civil life.

I am thus constrained to believe that our future is to be assured only through the closest union of the colored races who are peopling America and especially the Antilles.—C. S. FANCHINE of Paris, France.

INFORMATION

THE M. R. S. CLUB of our city, a member of the Michigan Association of Colored Women's Clubs, staged an original pageant, "Past, Present and Future of the Negro Race", with material gleaned from THE CRISIS, the Negro Year Book and Government statistics. It was an educational rally and the interest among both races was very marked. As the facts and figures were all true and could be verified, the educational value could not be denied.

Clubs in small towns and cities might well stage pageants of this nature to raise funds as well as broadcast information. Material can be easily assembled by studying THE CRISIS monthly.

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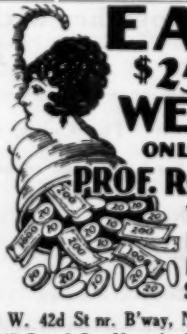

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The Little Page

(*Continued from page* 86)

ly. "You can't wonder that a poor old black man, a drudge all his life, should have some little superstitions clinging like spider web to his old jacket. Good day, Wise Willow Oak." And with a clanging cry the jay sped off.

Killdeer or Killdee

"KILLDEER, killdeer, killdeer!" At the first notes of this piercing cry in March we children would look up for a glimpse of speeding plovers, eerie fugitive birds, it seemed to us. Fitfully till well on in the fall we were to hear these fleeting calls. In the marshlands of New Jersey in his boyhood father had known the plovers even better than we. In some parts of the country, I am told, the poor little things are served as food. This is why their song seems sad to me.

The wan blue skies of March, the deep skies of summer and of autumn are swept by semicircular bands of plovers. Yet I do not see nor hear them now as in childhood.

Dear Brown Killdee

YOU'RE always so rushed, dear brown killdee.
I wish you could stop and play with me.
You'd tell me about the great free air,
And how the roofs look from way up there.
And I'd tell you of the reeds and sand,
Marsh lilies and things I can understand.
Perhaps you would sing in your voice so airy
Of those fledgling days on the Arctic prairie.
You're always so rushed, dear brown killdee.
I wish you could stop and play with me.

The Lady of Violet Time

IT seemed a long adventurous trip from my childhood home in Philadelphia to our future Ohio home. We arrived in the "Buckeye State" many years ago. My grandmother in New Jersey thought that we were moving far too many miles from her. And it did seem rather sad to us children, our leaving the wonderful parks and toy shops of Philadelphia and the nearby scenes of Jersey with orchards, pools with pond lilies and bogs that in season harbored cranberries.

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We were leaving all this for a strange place. And yet the Ohio trip was pleasant. We landed in a village of splendid hills and winding streams and long quiet lanes. It was the seat of a colored university founded many years ago. The campus had interesting scenes. One day we, a company of merry children, climbed up from the ravine behind one of the dormitories to the main campus and from there on to the "new building".

Here we saw on the porch a stately woman, rather tall, olive-colored and with coils of silvery hair. She looked like a queen as she stood in the doorway.

"Madam Keckley," whispered one of the children.

I remember so well that clear-featured beautiful face with the thoughtful eyes that looked pleasantly upon us. "The sewing teacher," was further whispered in explanation.

AND I thought strongly of handing her my precious bunch of violets. Would she accept them? Of course she would!

I learned her story later. Born in the year 1840, she must have experienced some of the bitterness of slavery. But Madam Elizabeth Keckley could not endure this humiliation, and borrowed the money with which to purchase her freedom. She was soon working industriously as a seamstress to repay the loan. She was really more than a seamstress. She was a modiste.

After buying her freedom she went to Washington to live. Her home had been in St. Louis. Always her ambitions were lofty. While her skillful needle worked busily on dresses for the wives of congressmen she dreamed of becoming a modiste to the wife of the president of the United States, Mrs. Lincoln.

In this capacity Madam Keckley worked for years. And one can imagine what art must have been required in fashioning some of the very striking costumes that Mrs. Lincoln is said to have worn. Years before I had seen Madam, the modiste, standing on the porch in violet time, she had donated to the university for the museum some of those gifts that Mrs. Lincoln, whose friendship she ever remembered and cherished, had presented her back in those days of hoop skirts and stove pipe hats.

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